



Volume 4.

No. 6.

Devoted to Art, Literature, Science and the Home Circle.

M. N. 42.

Price 6c.

Published and Copyrighted

Supplement for April, 1892

By Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.

NELLIE NORTH'S "LARK." A STORY FOR GIRLS.

It will be a jolly lark, girls, and I'm going to do it. I'll serve out old Copperplate in fine style—the cross, hateful old thing."

"Oh! Nellie," said Laura Stanwood, looking at her companion, Nellie North, in great admiration, "would you really do it?"

"Would I? Yes, indeed, I would and I will. Just you wait and see. I mean to pay old Copperplate out for scolding me the other day just because my writing did not please his lordship. I'll bring him down a peg or two, you see if I don't." Another burst of laughter.

"Besides, girls," continued Nellie, "I don't like old Copperplate at all, and I think it a shame that Miss Stonor employs such a shabby, poverty-stricken individual to teach us penmanship. Why, he's dreadfully seedy although he tries desperately hard to conceal it. The other day I noticed that his gloves were darned and patched so that you could hardly distinguish what the original color had been. And yet he puts on airs and orders us around as if we were beneath him. But I'll serve him out the first chance I get."

Nellie North and her two bosom friends, Alice Parks and Laura Stanwood, were clustered together in a secluded corner of the grounds surrounding Minerva House, a fashionable young ladies' boarding-school, presided over by a Miss Melpomene Stonor. It was a prosperous school, containing about sixty pupils, all the daughters of wealthy men, and ranging from fourteen to nineteen years old.

Nellie North and her two friends were fifteen, bright, bonny girls all three, and were the most mischievous girls in the school. Nellie was the leader in all the frolics—a bold, daring chit, whose pranks amazed her more timid companions and won for her the title of madcap of the school.

Miss Melpomene Stonor had three or four assistants to aid her in teaching the "young idea how to shoot" at Minerva House. Two of these were lady ushers and lived at the school, while the other two were gentlemen living in the vicinity of the school, who came to the institution at regular periods to teach the pupils the accomplishments of drawing and penmanship.

One of these—the writing master—had excited the ire of one of his pupils as the reader knows. Mr. Cass, the teacher of penmanship at Minerva House, or "old Copperplate," as Nellie North had so disrespectfully termed him, was an elderly man of a grave demeanor. His hair was gray and his face was pinched and pale, and his attire while not of the best, was always scrupulously neat and clean.

Yet, withal he was always a gentleman and evidently did not always have to teach for a living. Nellie North had accused the writing master of being a "cross, hateful old thing," but he was far from deserving of such a character. He was always polite and gentle with his pupils, only when occasionally he met a confirmed idler such as Miss Nellie, a scholar who thought more of mischief than her lessons and took no pains to learn. With these the writing master was sometimes harsh, which was quite excusable under the circumstances. Nellie North often came in for the writing master's condemnation, owing to her indolent, mischievous habits.

So she disliked Mr. Cass, whom everybody liked, and shut her eyes to his good qualities. She ridiculed him in secret to her schoolmates every chance she got, and exaggerated his humble garb. Nor was this all; she determined to have a "lark" with the hated teacher, to play a trick on him, such as would make him the laughing stock of the school. This was what she was confiding to her friends Alice Parks and Laura Stanwood at the opening of our sketch. These young ladies were a trifle more timid than Miss Nellie, and viewed her bold project with uneasiness, not, however, unmixed with admiration. Nellie North, however, nothing daunted, declared she would put her plan into operation at the earliest opportunity. It was only the very next day when she saw an excellent chance to play a joke on the writing master. It was his day for teaching the class, and he was in the school-room as usual setting the pupils copies to write and examining their copy books. He had finished his inspection of Nellie North's writing, and had turned to examine that of her nearest neighbor, when the madcap saw an excellent opportunity to play a joke upon him. Hastily taking a square piece of paper, on which was printed some kind of an inscription, she quietly affixed it with the aid of a pin to the tails of the writing master's coat, which were turned toward her. The pupils soon noticed the placard on which was printed the words, "Latest Style; Price \$25," after the manner of a clothing-dealer's price-card, and giggles and smiles arose on every side.

Observing their mirth, Mr. Cass in some surprise sharply asked them the cause of such ill timed glee, whereupon a thin-faced girl, noted as a tattletale, told him of the placard which was attached to his coat, and unfastening it, gave it to him. The writing master frowned darkly for a moment as he read the insulting label, but soon his brow cleared and he said, calmly:

"Young ladies, which one of you has done this?"

"Please, sir," said the tale-bearer alluded to, "it was Miss North; I saw her."

"Miss North," said the writing master, "did you write this?" And he held up the placard for her inspection.

"Yes, sir," answered Nellie, who sorned to deny her fault.

"Very good," answered the writing master. "I will acquaint Miss Stonor with your conduct, and rest assured it will be fittingly noticed by her."

And so it was. Miss Stonor, on learning of her pupil's fault, rebuked her severely, and sentenced her to write out five hundred lines of Virgil—not an easy task—as a punishment.

This took some time for the madcap to accomplish and kept her out of mischief for some time until it was done, but far from being sorry for the prank she had played on "old Copperplate," she was glad of it, and her dislike for the writing master increased. But he kept a sharp eye on her thereafter and she played him no more tricks. A sort of mutual armistice was arranged between them and peace reigned "in Warsaw."

Several weeks after this Nellie North was returning home from a visit to the neighboring village when she saw Mr. Cass, the writing master, come out of the door of a cottage near the roadside. This was his home, but she had not known it before. It was a poor looking cottage and evidently the occupant did not possess much wealth. The writing master did not see Nellie North; appeared to be deeply agitated and scarcely able to notice anybody. He set off with rapid strides towards the distant village, while Nellie North looked after him in surprise.

been unable to walk since my birth thirteen years ago and am confined to this bed ever since. But I don't mind it much for dear papa has been so good to me. He is all I have now since poor mother died."

"Is your mother dead?"

"Yes, miss; she died a year ago. I miss her very much, but some day we shall meet again never to part. It may be soon; I am not as strong as I once was and I think my eternal reward is near. To-day, before you came in I had a great weakness and poor papa ran to Dr. Balus, who lives in the village, to get him to see me, but I am better now, much better."

Just then the cottage door opened and the invalid's father entered. He glanced in surprise at Nellie North, who instead of flushing in embarrassment, spoke up like a true lady.

"Mr. Cass," she said, frankly, "I am very sorry that I was so disrespectful to you at Minerva House. It was mere carelessness



April with her
smiles and tears

"I wonder what is the matter with old Copperplate," thought Nellie. "He looks as if grief-stricken. Perhaps his wife, if he has one, is sick or dead."

Going up to one of the cottage windows, she peeped curiously into the writing master's home. It was a poorly-furnished apartment she saw. A shabby, uncarpeted room with bare, white-washed walls. A few chairs were scattered about, and there was a small table, on which were some books and papers. In a corner of the poor apartment was a bed on which a child was lying. She had long, fair hair and a thin, pallid face and was apparently an invalid.

Nellie North turned away from the window with a crimson cheek. She felt very pained and humiliated to think how she had reviled and ridiculed the poor writing master, who supported himself and his sick child on the scanty wages received as teacher of penmanship at Minerva House. Her heart smote her for her thoughtlessness, for like all madcaps Nellie was only frivolous and thoughtless, not a bad girl at heart. She was very sorry for her cruel treatment of her teacher and resolved to do all she could to atone for it. Lifting the latch of the cottage door, she entered the cottage without the formality of knocking, which she thought was useless, as there was evidently nobody but the sick child within. The occupant of the bed stared in languid surprise at the intruder, who sat down in a chair close to her bedside, and said:

"I am Nellie North, one of your father's pupils at Minerva House School. I did not know he had a sick daughter. I am so sorry for you. Can I help you in any way?"

"No, miss," answered the girl, faintly, "papa gets me everything I want, thank you. Poor papa! he is so good to me, who alas! has been such a burden to him, all these years. I have

that made me act so. Will you forgive me? I accidentally learned of your sick little girl and came to visit her."

Of course the writing master, who was despite his sad lot a thorough gentleman, forgave the conscience-stricken girl at once, and turning to his child, said:

"How do you feel, now, Mabelle? Dr. Balus was absent when I went to his office and I could not bring him, but he will be here sometime during the day."

"Oh! I don't need him now, papa," said the invalid, "I am much better."

Nellie North stayed for some time talking to her, and at length took her leave, promising to call again. She was much pained by the memory of her thoughtless conduct in ridiculing the noble minded school teacher, and she resolved to atone as much as possible for her former behavior. She did so, and ever after the poor writing master had no firmer friend and admirer in the school than the pupil who had so formerly



THE LATE POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF ENGLAND ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DAUGHTER.

Success Under Difficulties.

The recent sporting accident to Prince Christian at the mouth of the gunbarrel of his nephew—whom "Punch" calls the Duke of Con-naught—revives recollection of a similar accident years ago when at the untoward hand of his father Henry Fawcett, Gladstone's last Postmaster-General, lost both eyes by bird shot entering them during a game hunt. There is also recalled the young man's heroic, instantaneous speech when he heard his parent's self-accusing reproaches and grief: "Never mind, father, blindness shall not interfere with my success in life." It did not, and one of the pathetic sights in London streets long afterward was Henry Fawcett, M. P., led everywhere by a faithful daughter, herself a lady distinguished for intellect, and who remained purposely single in order to minister as amanuensis and guide to her plucky father.



MILTON DICTATING PARADISE LOST, TO HIS DAUGHTER.

The late Postmaster-General of England, Mr. Fawcett, was totally blind. Yet notwithstanding this heavy affliction Mr. Fawcett was one of the most efficient public officials England ever had and did much to introduce many reforms into the postal system of Great Britain. It seems almost incomprehensible that a man so situated could attain eminence in any direction to say nothing of becoming one of the foremost men in a country so noted for its brilliant men. But similar examples are not wanting and go to show that an indomitable will can accomplish even under the most discouraging circumstances. It is worthy of note in this connection that the daughter of Mr. Fawcett succeeded in winning the post of Senior Wrangler in the great college at Oxford. This is an achievement in scholarship that is without parallel even in the history of Oxford which extends back to the days of King Arthur the Great nearly a thousand years. Miss Fawcett's success attracted attention throughout the whole civilized world. No woman before had ever accomplished anything like it and the post of Senior Wrangler has rarely been filled except by men who in after life became highly distinguished.

The back bone of the Secession movement in our own country was supplied by Alexander Stephens, a man who for the greater part of his life lay at death's door. His was the brain that directed the Confederate Cabinet and his the skill that planned the foreign alliances that were so nearly successful. When Lincoln, who had heard much of Stephens, met him for the first time he was thunderstruck at the diminutive sickly man who stood before him. Stephens wore a great big ulcer and Lincoln looked to see a great big figure emerge. "Well," he remarked with one of his peculiar smiles, "you are the smallest pea in the biggest pod I ever met." If Stephens had succumbed to his physical ailments he would have been nothing but a burden to himself and his friends; but he went bravely to work and achieved greater renown than nine men in ten could with all the advantages of health and strength.

The story is also told of a man in London deprived of both legs and arms who managed to write with his mouth and perform other things so remarkable as to enable him to earn a fair living. He would lay certain sheets of paper together planning them at the corner to make them hold. Then he took a pen and wrote some verses; after which he would proceed to embellish the poem by many skillful flourishes. Dropping the pen from his mouth he next took up a needle and thread also with his mouth threaded the needle and made several stitches. He also painted with a brush and in many ways was a wonderful man. Instead of being a burden on his family he was the most important contributor to their welfare.

John Milton who wrote "Paradise Lost," the finest epic poem in the English language, was totally blind and dictated the poem to his daughters. Alexander Pope another brilliant name in English letters was also sadly deformed physically and tortured by constant headaches. He was glad when the time came to lay down his burden, yet this poor misshapen fellow enjoyed the society of all the great men of his day and has left a name that is imperishable.

And so the list might be extended. It is of great value in demonstrating the importance of unremitting effort. Almost everything gives way before perseverance. There is no human occupation in which a

man may engage that is not worthy of his best efforts. It is quite likely of course that a man may be engaged in the genial occupation of getting blood out of a stone; he may be so situated that no matter what he does it will count for practically nothing. There are such cases but all this time there is going on a process of preparation that is absolutely necessary for the future. It is the unexpected that always happens and sooner or later something turns up and if you are the right man the future is secure. That is why the good book says, "He that is faithful in small things shall rule over many." The man who attracts attention to himself as a worker in a subordinate position will soon be called up higher.

The following article shows the humorous side of the subject of blindness:

There lives in Paris a certain count who is very popular, although he is blind. Being witty and musical, his society is much sought after. He left Paris three months ago, and, on his return, called on a fashionable marchioness, who was preparing to go to a fancy ball. Being blind, he was asked to take a seat in her boudoir. Gossip ensued, and, during all the time, the marchioness, assisted by her maid, executed the mysteries of her toilet. Being ready to descend to her carriage, the count stated that he had been absent in London, and had undergone a successful operation for cataract, and could now see as well as the marchioness. The latter shrieked, and jumped into her carriage without even an au revoir.

One of the interesting families in London who have however always had good sight is that of the Dickenses.

In a recent interview, Charles Dickens, the son of his father, said: "My sister Mary, the second of the family, is unmarried and manages a typewriting establishment in this very building. My second sister, Catherine Elizabeth Macready, married Carlo Pellegrini, the artist, and is an artist herself, as you may know. My elder sister does not do any literary work. She edited my father's letters, but at present she has nothing to do with literature. I have two brothers in Australia. The elder, Alfred Tennyson, is in business as a merchant in Melbourne. The youngest, Edward Bulwer Lytton, is connected with the sheep-farming interest, and is a member of the New South Wales Parliament. I have, also, another brother in London, Henry Fielding, who has a very large practice at the bar. Those of my brothers who are dead were Walter Landor, Sydney Smith, Francis Jeffrey, the latter of whom died at Moline, Ill., and is buried there on the beautiful bluff overlooking the Mississippi. All my brothers were named after literary men. My second



Fielding, who has a very large practice at the bar. Those of my brothers who are dead were Walter Landor, Sydney Smith, Francis Jeffrey, the latter of whom died at Moline, Ill., and is buried there on the beautiful bluff overlooking the Mississippi. All my brothers were named after literary men. My second



IN AN OPEN LETTER A MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL, ABOUT TO RESIGN HIS PASTORATE SAYS:

"Some months ago through the advice of friends I began taking Oxien as a remedy for Nervous Prostration which was so troubling me that I was doing my work with great difficulty, and my Sabbath work left me with so severe a headache and other nervous troubles that life was almost a burden and I laid my plans to leave my charge; but your Oxien has so helped me that I am doing my work easier than I have before in five years. I have a number of friends now who want some of the Oxien. Please give me terms and if you desire I will do what I can for the sale of your Oxien."

Rev. Wm. Hoyt, Corrunna, Mich."

Not only are Ministers helped and cured but we receive many testimonials from doctors and others, who speak in strong terms of the great benefit derived from the use of this Wonderful Food. Write to-day to Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, for free sample and learn about the Oxien Electric Porous Plasters also.

Little Brown Jugs Given Away.

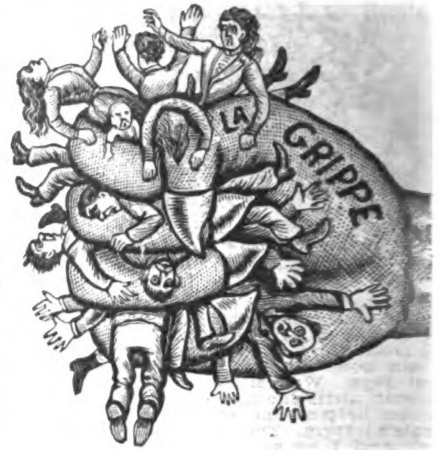
There has been a great demand for these Little Brown Jugs of late and the publishers of COMFORT have had a million made to give away to their subscribers; they have generally sold for 10c. each at the stores and are very popular to wear on watch chains or around the neck for charms. Men, women and children wear them, and to make COMFORT more popular Morse & Co. will give one free to any one sending 2c. for postage, or when sending 25c. for subscription or renewal of same say you want a jug and we will pay postage ourselves. We want everybody to have one and have them for sale by the hundred if any society desire them in quantity for badges.

AGAIN IN ITS GRASP.

Tightening its coils, we mean that sneezing, coughing, back-aching malady—that creeps stealthily on its victim, bears him down for a time and when confident of recovery takes him from our midst—epidemic influenza or La Grippe.

In this land, as in others, it sneered at the attempts of our scientists and medics to arrest its terrible course.

In a twinkling, old, middle aged and young were seized as victims and struggling in its grasp.



Fully 50 per cent. were destined never to recover. Many families were extinguished entire. Many were torn apart and the few remaining members left with the memories of a once happy home. Thousands were brought to a bed of suffering for the remainder of their life. Thousands more were left subjects for the mad house.

The heroic endeavors of the medical profession saved many of those who were stricken with La Grippe, but in most of those cases the saving of life was but to prolong the misery, for it is well known that wherever the monster sets its seal, it is sure to leave unfavorable results, but in the past record of the distemper it has been proven that that little plain, simple tablet called OXEN, had a large sized mission to perform in this one particular, and how well it did its duty is attested by the numerous letters received from our grateful friends. OXEN probably did more to ward off La Grippe, lessen the suffering, and effect a complete cure than any one of the advertised remedies.

The dreaded disease takes a ready hold of the system unprepared to withstand its ravages and it is its duty you all owe to your friends and relatives, to be fortified upon the arrival of the first symptoms. How shall we do this?

Keep a supply of the food on hand. When you feel a slight cold coming on, look out, it is the warning note. The sneezing, hacking and coughing is the messenger of warning sent you. Commence taking the tablets as directed and you will note with pleasure the results. No great bottle of medicine to dose from. A supply for the day can be carried in the vest pocket. The busy man's companion and friend. Pleasant, Effective, Inexpensive.

Do not wait until La Grippe has you in bed or on the way to the grave, for the Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, will send you without charge a sample package if you apply this month, together with new special directions so you can use it as a hot beverage. For it is during the Spring months that you will need just this sort of a drink to carry off the impurities in the system and prepare yourself to withstand the hot sultry days of Summer.

THE DIAMOND COLLECTION OF SONGS.

Over 600 Songs, and Every One a Gem. Words and Music Complete.

THIS BOOK IS A VERITABLE TREASURY OF THE WORLD'S POPULAR SONGS.

"The Finest Collection of Songs, both new and old, ever bound between the covers of one book."—N. Y. World.

<p>CONTENTS:</p> <p>Buy a broom. Ah, how death. Anvil chorus. Ah, my words. A sailor's love. A love song. Annie Laurie. Auld lang syne. Auld Grey Kirk. Alice Gray. Bye and bye. Believe me. Betsy Baker. Bryan O' Lynn. Bryan Bora. Bobbie around. Bonnie Doon. Bonnie Dundee. Billy boy. Bygone hours. Beware. Baby mine. Belle Brandon. Beautiful bells. Araby's daughter. Auld Robin Gray. A mariner bold. Adele, dear home. Afar in the wood. Aileen Mavourneen. Bridget Donahue. Black eyed Susan. Belle of Baltimore. Bacon and greens. Bruce's address. Brose and butter. Birds in the night. Begone dull care. Bridesmaids' chorus. Behold the babe. Beware of beauty. Call me thine own. Cheer, boys, cheer. Come home, father. Come back to Erin. Castles in the air.</p>	<p>First love. Forget me not. Giribaldi hymn. Giles Scroggins. Gilderoy. Green sleeves. Gaffer Gray. Gumbo Chaff. Home so blest. Hull's Victory. Highland Mary. Happy thought. Harvest home. Hail Columbia. Huntress fair. I have riches. I want to be a nun. In my cottage. I wish you well. In the starlight. I saw thee weep. In the gloaming. Jolly raftsmen. Come, landlord, fill. The flowing bowl. Cruelty to Johnny. Come, let's to bed. Dost thou love me. Dreaming of home. Fisher's Hornpipe. Forgive and forget. Fortune may frown. Fading, still fading. Father Abbey's will. Hours there were. Heure me, Norma. Jock o' Hazeldean. I'll pray for thee. I see them on their winding way. I'll be true to thee. Jock o' Hazeldean. Know you not that in my castle. Love that slumbers.</p>	<p>Jim along Josie. Jim crack corn. Johnny Sands. Jack and Jatin. Juanita. Killarney. Kitty Tyrrell. Kathleen Aroon. Last night. Lord Lovell. Lullaby. Little flowers. Louisiana belle. Lubby Dine. Lucy Neal. Lanigan's ball. Law. Larboard watch. Little Bo-Peep. Lorelei. Love, love, love. Little Barefoot. Light and gay. Market chorus. O joy, O day of joy. Oh, this sweet life. Old Rosin the beau. Over the mountain. Ratapan chorus. Robinson Crusoe. Rock a bye baby. Sing, darlings, sing. Stop dat knocking. Simon the cellarer. Strike the cymbal. Speak tender words. Star of Bethlehem. Solomon's temple. She is so innocent. See, comrades, see. The cobler's end. The tired up man. The brave old oak. The sweetest hours. The minstrel boy. The red, red rose.</p>	<p>My country. Miss Winkie. Maggie's secret. O Die Dee Dee. Mollie Mogg. Mollie Bawn. My Annie, O. Mary Morrison. Minty Snap. Mary Blane. Money musk. My sweetheart. Maid of Athens. Not married yet. Nell and I. Nancy Lee. None can tell. O maidens fair. Old Tubal Cain. Old King Cole. O ye tears. O fair dove. Swiss boy. Old Grimes. Over there. Oh, Mr. Coon. Old Joe. O Die Dee Dee. Old King Crow. Oh, Arabella. Poor old maids. Paddy Ike. Paddy Snap. Polly. Rory O'Moore. Robin Adair. Reel o' bogie. Ruby. Save the boy. Speak to me. Shule Aghra. Sweet Annie. Speed away. Shabby gentile. See how. Sweet home. Swiss boy. Seventy-two. The blue bird. The parting. The advice. The fair boy. The Ingleside. The resolve. Tulochgorm. Toby Ike. Thou art mine. The ivy green. The cup of tea. Ten o'clock. The pilot. The poschers. The watchman. Twilight dews. The fisher. The key of gold. The bridge. The watermill. Unspoken. Wai, wai, wai. When I behold other hearts. Washing day. Whoa, Emma. Whirlings at eve. Ye, it is dance. The little brown jug. Yankee girls. Young Agnes. Zip Coon.</p>
---	--	---	--

All the above, and 316 others, including the great popular song, "Comrades," are contained in this incomparable book. This great collection of over 600 songs, words and music, sent by mail postpaid for 30 CENTS. Satisfaction in every case or money refunded.

Given free for a 6 months subscription to COMFORT at 30 cents. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



THE BLIND COUNT HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY OPERATED UPON.

Nellie North's "Lark."

derided him. She often visited his sick child and they became great friends. She interested her schoolmates in the invalid, and poor Mabelle Cass's weary life was rendered more pleasant by their kindness, until the day came when she went to the Eternal Heritage awaiting her, and required no further earthly care. As for Nellie North, she is not so thoughtless now; she has learned that the coat does not make the man.

MAKING ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS A DAY.

One lady wrote to the GIANT OXIE CO., Augusta, Maine, that she was selling Oxien at the rate of ten dollars worth each half-hour. Any one wishing to do the same should write to-day for free samples and particulars.

MUSIC MADE EASY

The Latest Wonder

MUSIC

WITHOUT A TEACHER.

A Remarkable Invention. Everybody can now Play at Sight by the WONDERFUL FIGURATIVE MUSICAL NOTATIONS.

If you can read you can play the Piano or Organ in one day better than you could be taught in many lessons by a teacher.

Pearl's Easy System of Music is entirely different from many so-called easy methods sold under various names. No Chart or Pasteboard Cards with Lines to Lay on the Key-Board, or any other device to complicate or confuse the beginner. It is an entirely new and common-sense way of abbreviating and simplifying regularly written music, so that a child can read the symbols at sight without a teacher. It enables the beginner to READ, COUNT and FINGER correctly, and PLAY AT SIGHT on the PIANO, ORGANS or MELODEON. Teachers of music who have examined it recommend and advise its use, as it teaches correctly, advances the pupil, and encourages a musical interest with little practice. We guarantee that any person from SIX to FIFTY years of age can read and play this music AT SIGHT, or we will REFUND the price of the Method. It is published in handsome book form, printed on one paper. Contains full instructions, the rudiments of music, exercises, sacred and instrumental music, 15 pieces besides instruction, only 60 cts., by mail.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



HOW do you do my young friends? Are you out for a lark this fine April evening? Well, you had better have taken an umbrella, for I can begin to feel a few drops of rain now. Oh how treacherous are these April days. Well, all come over to my house and wait until the shower is over, and maybe you can help me answer some of these young people's letters. There! ain't that a pile of letters? And I am sure you can pass a pleasant evening reading them over, it will seem almost like meeting the young people who have written them, and I am constantly meeting them in this way, and some of them seem almost as near to me as you young folks who live right around our house. And you know you all call me Uncle here just as if I really stood in that relation to you. So many long descriptions of the trip around the world have come in that I have decided to postpone the decision until May first, as they must all be read and compared, so as to do justice to the best. I will here mention one I have from Hortons Bay, Mich., which is very comprehensive and a letter which shows much care and study in its preparation. And now when we have looked at a few more of them we will lay them aside for another time and tell this boy out in Oklahoma about the ship load of food which has gone to the sufferers in Russia. The good ship Indiana is her name and that good man Captain Sargent is to have command of her on her errand of mercy across the sea, and may good luck attend him, and may he deliver his precious freight safely, and may you all learn a lesson in charity from this noble example. I often wish they might have a ship load of the coins this boy asks about. The florin, one of the most famous of modern coins, originated in Florence, some going so far as to say it gave the name to the city, while others claim its name comes from having a fleur de lis on one face. Very few French gold pieces are now in circulation, except those bearing the head of Napoleon III. The word shilling is of German derivation, like penny which comes from the German pfennig. The name franc was given by King John who first coined these pieces in 1380, which reminds me that anyone having a large amount of francs could be said to be "well heeled." And my old shoemaker says: "As soon as a man comes into my shop, and takes off his shoes I can tell whether or not he is a good walker, and it is astonishing to find how few men know the proper way to step out." Watch the passersby on the streets and you will at once notice the difference. Nine men out of ten will bend the knee very considerably in walking, stepping

winter. Recently it was decided to warm the church and the old ladies with one voice protested against the innovation. "We shall be suffocated," they declared. "We shall be carried off fainting." One morning when they arrived for their devotions they found half a dozen stoves set up in different nooks and corners of the cathedral. In the course of the service, therefore, three of the old ladies fainted. "We knew how it would be," they afterward said to the dean. But the dean confounded them by assuring them that the new stoves had never been lighted. And how much better for all of you young boys to be able to say that that filthy cigarette had never been lighted, for if you could see them made it does not seem possible to me that any one of my nephews would ever allow one of them to touch his lips. If you must smoke, get a decent looking pipe and some good tobacco and smoke decently, and do not try to inhale the smoke to ruin your lungs, and drive you into an insane hospital or an early grave. By the way are you not all proud of our noble President for the stand he took in the recent Chilian squabble, *apology and reparation* are two large words, but he had a large number of the finest young and old men on this terrestrial globe to back up his demands, and I am sure this affair will be a lesson to other young bantam roosters like Chili, not to brag so much on their crow because they have not the spurs to back it up with, and humble pie is not pleasant pie to eat, and must go down much as did the dinner of the wealthy man who recently gave a grand banquet to some friends, among them being the "Spectator" of the Christian Union, who goes on to describe the appointments and the company of about sixteen who were present to partake of the bounty of their friend who had given *carte blanche* to a noted chef, as also an equally famous decorator, and at the head of this feast sat the host with a costly bowl before him containing simply bread and milk, this being the extent of the indulgence which his doctors permitted to him.

The independence of the American people as a class is very clearly brought to our vision by a recent statement coming from the Census Office, showing the distribution of paupers in almshouses by individual ages, it appears that the average age of almshouse paupers is fifty-one years, or six years more than it was ten years ago. The number of male paupers under thirty years of age and that of female paupers under forty years of age are actually less than the numbers returned in the census of 1880, and of course are still less relatively to the total population, which in my mind shows us that the people do not go to such places for a home except in very isolated cases, and that they go then only as a matter of necessity, and not from choice. The object of the Bureau of American Republics, generally stated, is the collection and diffusion of information between the several southern countries, represented at the conference recently held, and the United States, and also the encouragement of the study, by the people of this country generally, of the interesting republics between the Rio Grande and the Straits of Magellan, and in connection with our friendly relations with southern countries, an officer of the navy, detailed for that purpose, is now in Spain superintending the construction of a caravel, which is to be an exact fac-simile of that in which Columbus made his first voyage of discovery. It is to be equipped in the same way and manned by Spanish sailors in the costume of 400 years ago. This vessel will be completed and brought to the United States in time to participate in the naval review that is to take place at New York in April, 1893, and will be towed through the lakes to Chicago, to remain during the exposition. It will then return to Washington, and be permanently moored in the river south of the executive mansion. And here is a boy who wants me to tell him how to decide on an occupation to follow through life, asking advice of older people in a case like this is of course a good idea; but boys, I will say, try two or three of the most desirable trades or professions, in some way while young be with people who are engaged in the work you seem to like best as much as possible, and enter into conversation whenever it will not interfere with them in their work, and when the right time arrives follow the example of our young friend whose picture I give you here, as he was found one day by his master who is an artist.



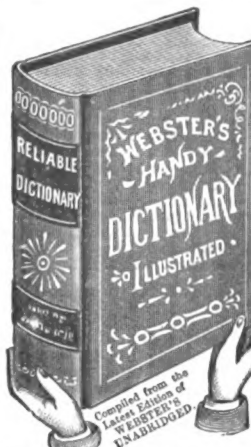
DRAWING HIS OWN CONCLUSION.

And then if in after life you are not pleased with the selection you will not feel inclined to censure Your loving

UNCLE JOSEPHUS.

Spring Work About the Farm

Should not prevent your getting up a club of at least a Dozen Subscribers to COMFORT, as it will become especially interesting through the summer months with the new features to be added. For a club of twelve you can secure the Photo Outfit and Dictionary mentioned on this page, and for 36 subscribers the Tea Set is given free. We have many other Premiums also and you can obtain most any article desired by devoting a few spare moments to the work—make the most of your opportunities.



months Subscription to COMFORT a 33 cents; or we will give the Dictionary free to any one sending us a club of 4 subscribers at 25 cents each.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

FALSE MUSTACHES, Goatees, Beards and Side Whiskers. GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES! Fun for the Million!



Here you are, boys. Just the thing for a little harmless MASQUEADING. These mustaches are made of the best material. GENUINE HAIR, NICELY CRIMPED. They have a wire attachment, allowing them to be fastened to or removed from the face with ease, and when worn cannot be easily felt in the real production of razor and soap. Boys and young men can have LOTS OF FUN by putting them on in a crowd of friends, who will be greatly astonished at the fact that the transformation. The goatees are attached to the face with wax, and like the mustaches can be removed and replaced as often as desired. For PRIVATE THEATRICALS, AMATEUR MINSTREL SHOWS, CHARACTERS, TABLEAUX, etc., where different characters are to be represented these hair ornaments will be found invaluable. Our two illustrations show ONE and the SAME PERSON, the difference in appearance being caused ENTIRELY by wearing our different styles of hair appendages. The first picture shows a youth of sixteen, wearing one of our mustaches; the second with full beard. Any boy or man can change their personal appearance in the same MANNER as shown in our illustrations. We furnish our mustaches and goatees in six colors—gray, red, light brown, medium brown, dark brown and black. In ordering, state color desired. BLACK and BROWN are the colors usually sold.

Price of mustaches 7 cents each; four for 25 cents; one dozen for 60 cents; goatees 5 cents each; four for 15 cents; one dozen, 40 cents, mailed postpaid.

FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.

There is nothing that will so COMPLETELY change one's appearance as a false beard. A boy can be INSTANTLY transformed into a middle-aged man, that even his parents would fail to recognize. We have two styles, "FULL BEARDS" and "SIDE WHISKERS WITH MUSTACHE," as shown in illustrations. They are suitable for MASQUEADING PARTIES, PRIVATE THEATRICALS, TABLEAUX, PARLOR ENTERTAINMENTS, etc. They can be easily adjusted to or removed from the face and young men can have any amount of fun by putting them on at EVENING PARTIES or elsewhere. The transformation is wonderful and we guarantee that the wearer of one of our beards will not be recognized by his nearest friends or relatives. They are made from good material, nicely crimped, which gives them a WAVY, NATURAL appearance. We have a full assortment of colors, WHITE, GRAY, RED, LIGHT BROWN, DARK BROWN, and BLACK. In ordering send a small lock of hair, or state color of beard desired. Price of FULL BEARD, as shown in cut, 60 cents; price of SIDE WHISKERS WITH MUSTACHE, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00, sent by mail postpaid. Address MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.



We have just received from the European market a great number of large 12x20 fine broadened Handkerchiefs. They are almost an exact imitation of real silk handkerchiefs, feeling and looking like silk, and are suitable for ladies' and gentlemen's use. As a pocket handkerchief, or kerchief for the neck, aimed at any one would value them (judging from their appearance) at from 75 cents to \$1 each. We have selected the prettiest and most fashionable shades of colors, including Blue, Pink, Red, White, etc., and now that silk handkerchiefs are so fashionable, our friends will find this an opportunity seldom offered to secure new and beautiful goods FREE, knowing everybody have colds, or

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK



quits, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 99 to 108 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy, art, and needle work. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample lot now for only 25c. It would cost many dollars bought at a store. GRAND OFFER: If you order our great assorted lot AT ONCE, we will give you, absolutely FREE, five skeins of elegant embroidery silk, all different bright colors. This silk is worth nearly the price we ask for the remnants; but we know if you order ONE lot we will sell many in your locality, as make this liberal offer. Three lots for \$5.00; five for \$10.00. **BEST BUY EVER!** We send ONE of the above complete assorted lots FREE to all who send 25 cents for 6 months subscription to "COMFORT," the best Home Monthly now published.

COMFORT PUB. CO., Box 990, Augusta, Maine. **BETTER YET.** To all answering this ad. before 30 days we will also send 6 pieces of elegant PLUSH FREE. They come in Red, Blue, Green, Old Gold, etc. Please mention COMFORT when you write.

THE DOLLAR CAMERA

AND OUTFIT COMPLETE

A GENUINE PHOTO-TAKING MACHINE, NOT A TOY, But a Perfect Picture Producer, to be set up and used in any home.

In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manufacture this Complete Photographing Outfit, which will be our leader during the coming season. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut, and mentioned below: A strong and perfectly made CAMERA, which will take a picture 2 1/2 inches square, complete with adjustable holder for Plate and PERFECT LENS with cap; A package of the renowned "Harvard Dry Plates"; 2 Japanese Tin Developing Trays; 1 Printing Frame; 1 package Blue Process Paper; 1 sheet Ruby Paper; 1 package Photo Mounts; Hyposulphite Soda; Developing Chemicals; complete and explicit instructions, enabling ANYONE to take ANY CLASS OF PICTURES with this Outfit. Now please remember that you are not buying a Camera ONLY but a complete and PERFECT OUTFIT, all ready for use without further expense to you. No such Outfit has sold heretofore for less than \$5.00. Everything is carefully made and prepared and bound to work perfectly. A wonder to all who see it and its work. You are not restricted to any class of pictures. You can take Landscapes, Portraits, Buildings, in fact ANYTHING. The whole, securely packed in a wood case for shipping. Be your own Photographer. How many pictures and friends that are dear, do you encounter every day whose image you would like to preserve? With this Outfit you can do it and almost without expense. It contains all the necessary materials. The instructions "do the rest." **PRICE ONLY \$1.00** by express, by mail postpaid \$1.15. Given for a club of 8 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cents each.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.



DO YOU WANT THIS BEAUTIFUL TEA SET FREE

Yes, actually Given Away for a Few Hours' Work.

Our Jewel Tea-set which we illustrate above is beautifully decorated on the finest English ware. If there is any one thing that is a woman's comfort it is nice china. There is nothing more beautiful or more useful than a nice set of beautiful decorated dishes. We have imported a large quantity of these beautiful Tea-sets which we intend to use as premiums to increase the circulation of COMFORT. Each set is carefully packed in a box, and unless carefully handled in transportation will go safely to any part of the United States. This set consists of 56 pieces, viz: Tea-pot, sugar bowl and pitcher, 12 cups and saucers, 12 tea plates, 2 cake plates, 12 preserve dishes, and one slop bowl. Each set is tastefully ornamented. We have them in a number of different designs, also in different colors. This design is entirely new, and the shapes of the pieces are the latest pattern. It is as handsome a tea-set as one could wish, and will make an elegant and useful gift. Remember this is genuine English ware. We give this beautiful Tea-set for only 36 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each, or 24 subscribers and \$3.00, or 20 subscribers and \$4.00. We offer it for sale at \$8.00. If must go by express or freight, receiver to pay express charges when sent as a premium or purchased. Really it is a small affair, you may say, this getting 25-cent pieces from my friends for subscriptions to "COMFORT," yet you know it is an easy way to try, and you will surely succeed in obtaining some of this beautiful CHINA FREE, if you but set yourself about it, for COMFORT IS WHAT WE ALL WANT, and what we live for. So take it up among your friends and see how anxious they all are to take COMFORT. Every month will bring new features, and, only think, a whole year of "COMFORT" for only 25 cents. No matter how many papers or magazines they are now taking, there will be so many new thoughts in our monthly that after once subscribing they will keep at it always. Now send 36 subscribers at once, at 25 cents each, and have your Tea-set sent by the first train.

Address, MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.



A PENNY'S WORTH OF STRAP OIL.

APRIL.

The month of April is one of the most popular months of the year. The first balmy days of Spring come in April and the trees and grass put forth their tender shoots. The foliage is never so fresh and green as it is toward the end of April and the month is a favorite one with the painters. Bleating lambs on the hillside with pink blossoms on the trees serve to enchant the artist and the result is that many delightful canvases have the oft-repeated title, "An April Day."

The month starts out with a celebration as unique as it is mysterious. The singular practices incident to the First of April are not alone confined to our own country nor even to civilized countries, but similar customs exist among the Hindoos and other people who cannot be said to have an intimate acquaintance with the manners of civilized nations. There is no definite solution of the origin of the day but

That is, he gives some simpleton a note telling him at the same time that it is a request for something important or the loan of an article and starts him to a friend some two miles off. In reality the note contains a line to the effect that it is the first of April and the bearer is engaged in the time honored sport of "Hunting the Gowk." Whereupon the friend with a grave face regrets that he is unable to oblige, but if he will take the note to another person, likewise two miles off, he will get what he wants. No. 3 treats him in the same way and so on he goes till some one of the series taking pity on him gives him a hint of the joke. A successful affair of this kind will keep an average Scotchman laughing for a week.

And the funny thing they do is to send all the small boys they can reach to the cobblers for a penny's worth of strap oil. This of course means a hearty application of a strap to the youngster's shoulders much to his disgust and astonishment. He returns much crestfallen only to be received with shouts of laughter by his companions.



A LONDON JOKE.

It sometimes happens as it did in London some years ago, that the opportunity is taken by some practical jokers to impose on a whole community. A vast number of people on that



THE ORIGINAL THIRTY.

dings cannot be dispelled. Thus it happens that Hymen is particularly busy during the month of April.

The sixth of May is somewhat conspicuous in ancient history as it marks the death of Richard the Lion Hearted, whose crusades in the Holy Land are familiar to all students of Bible history.

April has been robbed of many days, having been brought as low as 24. But when Julius Caesar rearranged the calendar he gave it back its original thirty and there it has remained ever since.

OUGHT TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

Have you ever been troubled with kidney disease Or a very disorganized liver? Have you ever experienced loss of all ease When an aque puts you in a shiver? I can tell you the quickest of cures ever seen, And indeed you should not be without it, For I've been in the habit of trying OXIEIN, So I ought to know something about it!

Have you suffered from nervousness time and again, From weariness, ennui, exhaustion? Have you gone to bed often with wild, throbbing brain And of sleep got not even a portion? If you'd like a good remedy, rapid and sure, OXIEIN is its name, and don't doubt it, For I use it whenever I'm needing a cure, So I ought to know something about it!

Are you martyr to all to disease of the throat? Is your heart or your lungs out of order? Have you signs of consumption, however remote, Or any neuralgic disorder? I have told you the cure—'tis the Giant OXIEIN, And from the hilltops I will shout it, It has given me relief when afflicted I've been— So I ought to know something about it!

J. S. G.

NICKEL PEN KNIFE FREE.

To introduce our Novelty Catalogue goods we will send free for 4 cents, mailing expenses, a 3 bladed Nickel-handle Knife. Nice for everyone; first-class pencil sharpener, nail cleaner, etc.; has ear spoon and toothpick attached. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine.

THE MAMMOTH STAMPING OUTFIT.

A NEW DISCOVERY WHICH REVOLUTIONIZES THE STAMPING OUTFIT BUSINESS.

FOUR COMPLETE ALPHABETS AND 185 LARGE AND ARTISTIC PATTERNS FOR ONLY 50 CENTS.

Stamping patterns have hitherto been made only of the best linen parchment paper, which is very expensive, but after years of study, a new paper has been discovered which can be successfully used for this purpose for all kinds of POWDER stamping, making beautiful, perfect patterns which may be used for powder stamping at least seventy-five times with perfect success. The discovery and use of this new paper permits us to offer fine first-class stamping patterns at one-fourth the regular price, and in this outfit will be found for the small sum of 50 cents, patterns which cannot be equalled by any two \$1.00 stamping outfits in the market. Each outfit contains four complete alphabets suitable for every description of work, two alphabets two inches high, two alphabets one inch high, and 185 beautiful and well-made patterns, many of large size, nearly all of which are named below.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Set of 26 Initials 1 inches high. | 1 Alphabet 1 1/2 inches high. |
| 1 Complete Alphabet. | 1 Alphabet 1 inch high. |
| 1 Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in. | 1 Large Butterfly. |
| 1 Outline Design Boy with Wagon 7 in. | 1 Braiding Patterns. |
| 1 Spray Wheat 3 in. high. (High.) | 1 Spray Carnation Pink. |
| 1 Corner design Fuchsias and Lily-of-the-Valley 5x5 inches. | 1 Buttercup 3 inches high. |
| 1 Crescent of Wild Roses and Buds. | 1 Sunflower 6 inches high. |
| 1 Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high. | 1 Design Buttercup. |
| 1 Design Sunflower 6 inches high. | 1 Braiding Pattern 5 in. wd. |
| 1 Half Wreath Daisies 8 inches high. | 1 Design Four Leaf Clover. |
| 1 Outline Design Girl 7 inches high. | 1 Spray Daisies 6 in. high. |
| 1 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high. | 1 Yacht 7 inches high. |
| 1 Cluster Grapes 3 inches for napkins. | 1 Dancing Girl 8 in. high. |
| 1 Corner Design Daisies 6x6 inches. | 1 Cluster Rose Buds. |
| 1 Corner Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in. | 1 Spray Roses 6 inches high. |
| 1 Design for silk embroidery 3 in. wide. | 1 Poppy Design. |
| 1 Design Acorns and Leaves 9 in. high. | 1 Bunch Forget-me-nots. |
| 1 Braiding Patterns 2 1/2 inches wide. | 1 Sprays Daisies 4 in. high. |
| 1 Design for flannel skirt 4 inches wide. | 1 Design of Buttercup. |
| 1 Design Rose Buds for baby's blanket. | 1 Design Salvia 9 in. high. |
| 1 Outline Design Man "ye olden time." | 1 Vine Holly 4 inches wide. |
| 1 Outline Design "Scout," Brother, Butterfly, "Scout," Comic. | 1 Design Daisies 4 in. high. |
| 1 Des. Good Luck Horse Shoe and 1 Design Crescents. (Flowers.) | 1 Spray Poppies 3 in. high. |
| 1 Spray Wild Roses 8 inches high. | 1 Large Rose Bud. |
| 1 Des. for tinsel embroidery 5 in. wide. | 1 Mushroom 4 inches high. |
| 1 Design for shaving case 5 inches high. | 1 Cluster of Roses. |
| 1 Braiding Pattern with cor. 2 in. wide. | 2 Daisy Designs. |
| 1 Cluster Thistles 7x7 inches. | 1 Clover Design 10 in. high. |
| 1 Des. for flannel embroidery 2 1/2 wide. | 2 Designs for Pen Wipers. |
| 1 Scallop Design with Eyelets. | 1 Braiding Design 1 1/2 inches. |
| 1 Outline Design of Girl for tidy. | 1 Design Wild Roses. |
| 1 Spray of Jonquil 6x7 inches. | 2 Butterflies. |
| 1 Cluster Roses and Grasses 4 inches high. | 2 Butterflies. |
| 1 Design Pansies 6 inches high. | 1 Anchor and Chain. |
| 1 Design Pond Lilies 5x5 inches. | 1 Scallop with Eyelets. |
| 1 Cluster Fuchsias 4x10 inches. | 1 Large Butterflies. |
| 1 Corner Design Fuchsias and Lilies of the Valley 7x7 inches. | 2 Design Pansies 5 in. high. |
| 1 Chicken. (The Valley 7x7 inches.) | 1 Design Nasturtium 9 inches high. |
| 1 Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds. | 1 Outline Des. Boy Spin'g Top 6 in. hl. |
| 1 Butterfly. (6x6 inches.) | 1 Cluster of Buttercups 6 inches high. |
| 1 Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and 1 Large Rose Bud. (Horseshoe.) | 1 Outline Design Girl Going to School. |
| 1 Des. Peaches, Leaves and Blossoms. | 1 Design Daisies. (10 inches high.) |
| 1 Des. Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high. | 1 Design Swallow on Branch 3x5 in. |
| 1 Design Cherry Blossoms 7 in. high. | 1 Design of Pitcher for tray cloth. |
| 1 Hairsom. Bouquet 6 inches high. | 1 Outline Design Boy with Bouquet 8 in. high. |
| 1 Outline Des. Girl and Dog 7 in. high. | 1 Clover Design. (Inches high.) |
| 3 Designs Wild Roses 4 inches high. | 1 Outline Design for tidy 6x7 inches. |
| 1 Palette with Wild Rose for Thermometer. | 1 Spray Golden Rod 5 inches high. |
| 1 Daisy. (for Case 6x9 inches.) | 1 Outline Design of Girl 8 inches high. |
| 1 Bouquet Flowers, Grasses and Ferns. | 1 Outline Design Girl 5 inches high. |
| 1 Rose 3 inches high. (7 inches high.) | 1 Corner Design Daisies and Bachelor Buttons 8x8 inches. |
| 1 Cluster Daisies 6 inches high. | 1 Spray Forget-me-nots 7 inches high. |
| 1 Design Pomegranate 4 1/2 inches high. | 1 Design Rose Buds and Leaves. |
| 1 Cluster Bachelor's Buttons 7 in. high. | 1 Design Forget-me-nots and Lilies of the Valley 4x5 inches. |
| 1 Design "Heavenly Chinese." Comic. | 1 Design Roses with Buds and Leaves. |
| 1 Braiding Design with Scallops 3 1/2 inches wide. | 1 Spray Wheat. (5 inches high.) |
| 1 Scroll Design 1 1/2 inches wide. | 1 Cluster Apple Blossoms 4x3 inches. |
| 1 Design Stag's Head 5x5 inches. | 1 Spray Daisies 4 1/2 inches high. |
| 1 Design for Cigar Case 4x4 inches. | 1 Outline Design Girl 6 inches high. |
| 1 Design for Laundry Bag 7x9 inches. | 1 Design Wild Roses 5 inches high. |
| 1 Duck Swimming 3x4 inches. | 1 Girl Rolling Hoop 4 inches high. |
| | 1 Half Wreath Daisies 8x8 inches. |
| | 1 Pretty Little Miss 7 inches high. |
| | 1 Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high. |

No such combination of patterns have ever been advertised before in a single outfit as here we offer everything named above, all sent postpaid for only 50 cents. Remember, these patterns are not recommended for wet or paint stamping, but only for powder stamping, which is done almost exclusively at the present time, and we guarantee them to give perfect satisfaction, and any lady who does not feel she has obtained as much value for her money, may return them and her money will be promptly refunded. With every outfit of patterns we send full and complete directions for making the powder and doing the stamping successfully, and such other information as will enable any one to do fine work from the very start. Stamping patterns were never so popular, or so much used as to-day, and YOU should send 50 cents for this great outfit without delay.

LIMITED OFFER. Send 50 cents for a years subscription to COMFORT and receive this outfit FREE; or outfit Given Free for a Club of 4 yearly Subscribers at 25 cents each.

Address MORSE & CO., Box 999, Augusta, Maine.



A WHOLE TABLE-LOAD OF FUN.

CARL has gotten together this great collection of games, etc., assorting up the best from an immense bankrupt stock that we just purchased for 10c. on the dollar, and to introduce our great line of Novelties, Books, Magic, and other specialties. We are going to give away a certain number of these collections with our catalogue of Fancy Goods, etc. We are the largest dealers in this line of goods in the market, but we cannot half illustrate this grand cabinet of rare goods, and can only name a few of the articles sent with each lot. Complete game of Authors, 48 cards, set Dominoes, Chess and Checker Boards and men for same, Fox and Geese and other nice board games. Set alphabetic books, of Tablans, Fantomans, Flower works, Clairvoyant, etc., Fortune, Shadow, and all other helpers; 50 choice sets Magic by the dozen; 21 other Parlor Games; Music, Whistle order, Letter Games, etc., all of which we send prepaid if you will show the goods and try and get orders for some in your locality. Exclude the packing, etc. You can probably dispose of what you don't care to use in the lot for a good large sum of money. We will send 2 lots for 25c. or 5 for 50c. If you want to dispose of a quantity around home. Address

MORSE & CO.,

Augusta, Me.



WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.

This Weather Warning will faithfully forecast the weather for the ensuing 24 hours, so that you can get your own weather report without waiting for the newspapers to tell you what the weather report is to be. It is a cyclone warning. When the weather is going to be wet, a fine noble dog arises from his kennel back in the distance, and approaches the opening (see illustration above), giving a signal that there is a storm approaching, and as the storm subsides, or if it will be over during the next 24 hours, a butterfly in all its splendor appears to tell you that sunshine is at hand, to gladden the hearts of mankind. The butterfly and the dog are made of metal in hand-colored colors. The front is handsomely decorated with fancy designs and figures. In the center stands an accurate thermometer; the whole thing being so simple that a child will understand it at once. When the devastating hurricanes, cyclone and wind storms are approaching your home, this machine warns you long ahead, giving you time to prepare. It is a wonderful machine, and will save your life and many a dollar besides. It tells you whether you had better take your umbrella with you to-day. It tells a lady the weather, and she will know the most suitable dress to wear, etc. Enclose 50 cents to Morse & Co., Box 905 Augusta, Me.



COMING FROM CHURCH DURING THE LENTEN SEASON.

the fact remains that it is celebrated the world over and is the cause of great merriment.

In Scotland the idea of fun on that day takes rather a peculiar course. But then there is no accounting for what a Scotchman thinks is fun. Sydney Smith says that the only way to get a joke into a Scotchman's head was by a surgical operation, and although he doubtless referred to an English joke the fact remains that ordinarily speaking the Scotchman has no humor in his soul. Consequently on April Fool's Day he practices what he calls "Hunting the Gowk."



THE ESCAPE OF THE DUKE OF LORRAINE.

occasion received cards containing the following invitation:

TOWER OF LONDON.

ADMIT BEAVER AND FRIEND TO VIEW THE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF WASHING THE WHITE LIONS ON SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST, 1860. ADMITTED ONLY AT THE WHITE GATE.

The trick was particularly successful and all day long the streets in the vicinity of the Tower were black with cabs vainly seeking The White Gate. A more disgusted lot of citizens it would be hard to find, when the hoax finally dawned upon them.

France is very much given to April fooling, but on one occasion their love for sport cost them two distinguished prisoners. Francis, Duke of Lorraine and his wife were in captivity in Nantes. Disguised as peasants, the one bearing a hod upon his shoulder and the other a basket of rubbish they both at an early hour of the day passed through the gates of the city. A woman having knowledge of their persons ran to the guard with the information for the sentry. "April fool!" laughed the soldier, and the whole guard to a man echoed "April fool!" Before the error was discovered the escaped prisoners were out of reach.

April is also noted for the period of religious services celebrated during the month. When Lenten season begins it puts an end to all social gaiety till the Summer season sets in. After the 40 days of fasting, Easter Sunday is joyously observed throughout the world, it falls upon the 17th of April, this year. Fastday is generally observed as an old Puritan Landmark, and the day set apart for this religious service is queer enough, now the opening of the base ball season in New England. It generally comes on the third or fourth Thursday in April. Whatever marriages are in the near future are celebrated in April rather than May. Brides dislike May and the old superstition regarding May wed-

COMFORT

House
Moving



Decoration
Day

Dancing
Around
the May Pole



Volume 4. No. 7.

Devoted to Art, Literature, Science and the Home Circle.

M.N. 43. Price 6 c.

Published and Copyrighted

MAY, 1892.

By Morse & Co Augusta, Me.

THE HEROINE OF COBB'S CROSSING



A picture of the terrible wreck

Chapter I.

LIZBETH, I guess you'll have to go down and relieve Jim at the box. My rheumatiz is too much for me this afternoon. Ask him to come back after his supper, and take my place for the night, deary. Put on your warm cloak and rubbers, for it is cold and muddy outdoors!"

John Sanders moved his two stiff knees round to the stove with a groan, for his limbs were very painful. He had caught rheumatic cold while sitting in the signal box at Cobb's Crossing, where, alternately with Jim Moran it was his duty to attend to the signals on the Blue Mountain Railroad, and manipulate the telegraph instrument along the line. John was a widower of forty-five, and Lizbeth a girl of eighteen summers, his only child. Like her father, she was

somewhat plain featured, very much freckled, and had high cheek bones which certainly were the reverse of pretty, nevertheless there was a settled good-humored smile on her face, which always attracted people so much that they forgot her lack of beauty. She was a strong and willing girl, and almost as well qualified as her father to take charge of the signal box. For six or seven years she had been in the habit of taking her father's meals down to the railroad crossing, on those days when he was on duty, and she had learned to manipulate the signals and the telegraph with the ease and rapidity that comes from persistent practice. It was, therefore, not unusual, when her father was sick, for her to take his place, but he would only allow her to do this in the daytime, for he was afraid of exposing her to the dangers of the night. But stalwart young Jim Moran was only too willing to work night and day too, in order to save Lizbeth any care or trouble, and it was a pretty open secret along the line and around the village, that they both thought a deal of each other. It was also known that John Sanders rather favored than opposed the match, and indeed, everybody was contented that it should be so, for both Lizbeth and Jim were exceedingly popular among the country folks of Hillside and Cobb's Crossing.

The girl busied herself in making things comfortable for her father during her absence, placing everything he was likely to need within his reach so as not to give him the trouble of rising until she should return. Then she bent down and kissed him with affectionate reverence, and wrapping herself well up set out down the lane for the signal box where her sweetheart was on duty.

Her path lay down the hill, which ran parallel to the track until she came to a small stone bridge which crossed the rails about half way between her home and the signal box. Then the lane continued down a gradual slope on the other side of the track until it reached Cobb's Crossing, where Jim was waiting to be relieved. On the bridge she noticed two strange men who regarded her intently as she passed, and muttered something to each other which she could not quite catch. Twice between the bridge and the signal box she glanced back and found that the pair were watching her intently. Wondering who they could be, she climbed up the wooden steps leading to the shanty and was immediately clasped in the arms of her lover and kissed at least a dozen times before she could get breath enough to talk.

"Oh Jim!" she exclaimed, when she could free herself. "For the land's sake let me go! I haven't any breath to spare. Father is sick again with the rheumatiz, so he has sent me down to relieve you this afternoon, and he wants you to please do his night for him."

"Why certainly Lizbeth, you know I'll be only too glad to stay. I'm awful sorry to hear he is in pain again, for do you know I have good news for all of us this morning?" and Jim put his arm around the girl's waist again and helped himself to a fresh supply of kisses.

"What is it, Jim?" asked the girl eagerly, "do tell!"

"Well little sweetheart, the Assistant Travelling Auditor



"The awful Destruction"



"Silence," she cried!

notified me this morning that both your father's salary and mine would be raised five dollars a month after the first. Now is not that good news, Lizbeth?"

"Oh my stars Jim, but that is good luck and no mistake. Father will be just delighted when I tell him, but now I want you to go home, and come right back again after you have had supper. And oh, by the way, Jim, have you seen anything of two strangers around? I just passed a suspicious looking pair of fellows on the bridge, and they are up to no good I'll warrant. They watched me all the way down here."

"Both dark men, with soft felt hats, and long overcoats?" asked Jim, his face growing suddenly serious.

"Yes, and both smoking wood pipes," replied Lizbeth. "I can't tell who they can be nor what they can want around this neighborhood. They are too well dressed to be tramps, and yet I don't like their looks—have you seen them?"

"Yes, they stopped here and asked me for a match about an hour ago, and were rather inquisitive about my business—too much so for my liking. Wanted to know if the Eastern express stopped anywhere between Papperton and Bruceville, and about what time it was due at the junction. Asked how far it was from here to Bruceville and how long it took a train to come from there. I said as no trains stopped here at all or within two miles of here, I could not tell, as I had never timed them. Their eyes were wandering all over while they were in here and I was precious glad when they left. I can tell you."

"I wonder what they are standing on the bridge for?" asked Lizbeth, as she turned and looked through the window in that direction. "Why they have gone away now," she added, "there was nobody visible on the bridge. They are not coming down the road, they must have gone up in direction of our house."

"Now don't get frightened darling. I'll go around that way as I go home, and tell your father to keep the door bolted until you get back. Cheer up sweetheart, I'll be back in a couple of hours. There's only two freights to pass down and the Eastern express up at 6.05. It is 5 o'clock now. Have you brought anything to read?"

"Yes Jim, I have this month's *Comfort* with me, so I shall have plenty to occupy my mind. Now don't be late there's a good fellow," and she kissed her hand to the handsome young signalman as he ran lightly down the steps and commenced walking rapidly up the lane in the direction of the stone bridge.

The signal box was raised about fifteen feet from the ground and had windows on three sides of it, commanding a view of the railroad tracks for at least three quarters of a mile each way. Below, in the Bruceville direction, the track was fringed with heavy brushwood on each side and this continued right away to the bend at Norris's farm where a curve in the track concealed it from further view. It was a dreary November day and before Jim had been gone many minutes Lizbeth found it necessary to light her lamps, which were already trimmed for service.

Before she had been reading twenty minutes the instrument indicated the approach of a freight train on the down line and Lizbeth at once set the signals, "All

clear, go ahead." On it came in a slow and cumbersome way, the great broad headlight throwing its searching glare on each side of the track. The young girl rose from her chair and stood by the window. The train was at least eighty yards from the box and moving but slowly, slow enough indeed to make it possible for her to notice all the objects brought to light by that glare. Under a tree on the opposite side of the track she saw the figures of four men, all masked, but from the figures and costumes of two of them she felt sure they were the same pair she had passed on the bridge in the afternoon. Instantly all kinds of conflicting thoughts rushed through her mind, but one idea seized upon her immediately above all others, and like the quick-witted girl she was, she promptly acted on it. Those men were there for some evil purpose, most likely to rob or wreck a train!

With a beating heart she sat down at the telegraph instrument. The freight train was slowly rolling by between her and the men she had seen. She tried to get the operator at Bruceville but the instrument would not work. Instinctively she understood the reason—the wires had been cut! With this conviction came now the dreadful thought that she could not now be apprised of the approach of the express! The headlight of the freight train was now fifty yards past the box, a few yards ahead of it she saw several men at the foot of a telegraph pole and one climbing it.

He was going to cut off her communication with Papperton!

In less time than she could think she had sent to the Papperton operator this message:

"Send all the help you can immediately to Cobb's Crossing, and try another circuit to stop express, gang of men waiting here to wreck it. Wires cut to Bruce!"

Here her connection was cut also—the climber had achieved his object! The clock stood at 5.35—in half an hour the express was due.

What would these men do in the meantime—what had they done already? It was twelve miles to Bruceville, nine miles to Papperton, the express did not stop between the two places and communication was now cut off in both directions! The thought of her father and Jim gave poor Lizbeth extra nerve. She went to a little drawer under the cupboard, where her father usually kept a loaded revolver for the purpose of scaring away tramps and strange track-walkers. The weapon was there, fully loaded, and the girl hastily placed it in her pocket. She heard the rumble of the second freight train, she set her signals right just as if she had been apprized of its approach in the usual way, and as the train passed down she set the red light at the "distance" and "home," turned out her lamps, locked the door, slipped down the steps and into the shadow of the roadway in the twinkling of an eye.

Climbing over the stone fence the girl sped on in the dark over the damp grass as fast as her feet could carry her. She was running in the direction

Allegorical Group of War



Columbian Fair
CHICAGO

write to-day, enclosing stamp, and we will mail you **FREE SAMPLE** and full particulars, which will enable you to commence work at once. Address, **W. H. WILLIAMSON, 44 N. 4th St., Philada., Pa.**



Our clock must be slow this morning, Busy Bee, for I am sure I hear some one coming, and I did not think it was nearly time. Cousin Drone must have forgotten to wind it last night. Run to the door, cousin, please, somebody is rapping. Good morning, good morning! but where are the rest, is this all who are coming? I thought we should have a full meeting this lovely day.

"Oh, the young folks stopped to go a-maying; they will be along presently," says Grandma Smith, sitting down comfortably and taking out her knitting. "Gals will be gals, and they like to race around in the woods this fine weather."

Yes, that's true; I enjoy it myself. See these beautiful mayflowers which I picked yesterday while out for a walk. We will not wait for the girls, for I know they will be here soon, but will begin our session at once. I have a letter here which I want to read, and will some of the Bees please answer it?

Dear Busy Bees:—Will you be so kind as to give a little of your honey to a stranger? If some one will only tell me how to learn the alphabet of crochet, I would be so much obliged. I cannot pick out any of the patterns in papers, nor send any of my own, because I don't know my letters, so to speak.

A stranger bee, Mrs. J. H. GAVITT, Springville, Penn. I know that some kind-hearted sister will write to Mrs. Gavitt and tell her just what she wants to know. I would do so myself if I had the time.

Here come the girls, all out of breath. What, no flowers?

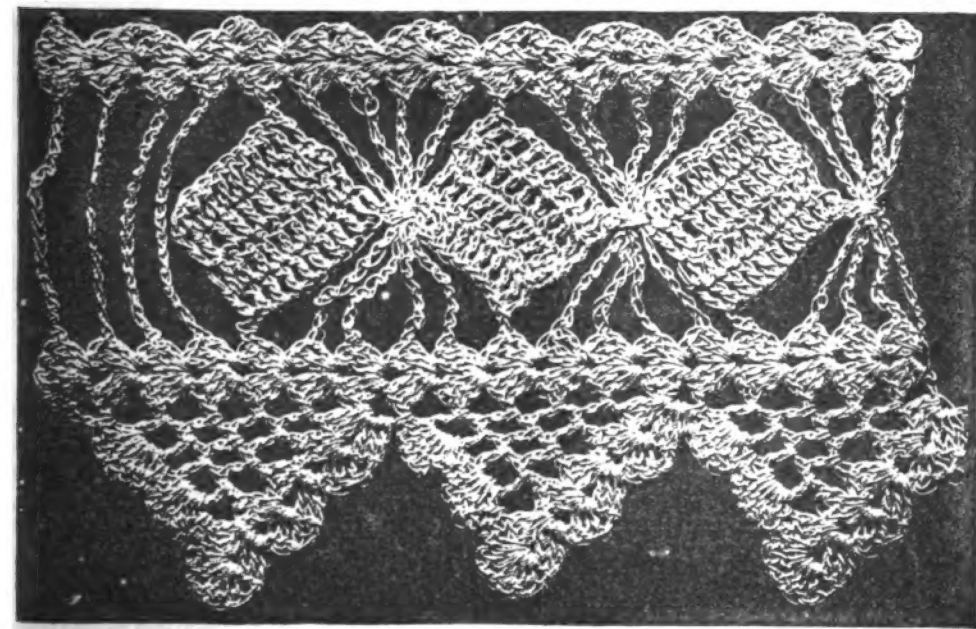
"No, but plenty of muddy dresses and wet feet," says Maggie May. "This is what we get for playing truant. You ought to scold us soundly, Busy Bee. How much of the meeting have we lost by being late?"

Not much of any importance, so come right in and sit down, and we will proceed. Oldtown was just about to give us a pretty edging pattern, I believe.

"Yes, I am sure you will like this; it is called

POINT EDGING.

Make a foundation chain of 22 stitches. 1st row.—Make a sh in the 4th st of foundation ch (by putting 3 dc, 1 ch, 1 dc in same st),



POINT EDGING.

ch 15, skip 15 sts, make a sh in the 20th st of ch, ch 1, make a shell in last st of foundation ch, turn.

2d row.—Ch 1, make a sh in last sh of row, ch 1, 1 dc in loop between shs, ch 2, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, turn.

3d row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st loop from sh, ch 1, 1 dc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

4th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st loop, ch 1, 1 dc in next loop, ch 1, 1 dc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 11, make 2 dc in middle of foundation ch, drawing the 4 chs together, turn; 1 dc in each of the 1st 10 sts of ch 11, turn, * 1 dc between each of 10 dcs just made, repeat from * twice, making 4 rows in the square, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

5th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in 1st loop, ch 1, 1 dc in 2d loop, ch 1, 1 dc in 3d loop, ch 1, 1 dc in 4th loop, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

6th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, 1 sc in 1st loop, 6 dc in next loop, 1 sc in next loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, turn.

1st row of 2d scallop.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, make a sh in 1st loop, turn.

2d row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, turn.

3d row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 11, 2 dc in 1st st of last row of square in 1st scallop, drawing the 4 chs together, then make a square the same as in the 4th row of the 1st scallop; sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

4th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, 1 dc in loop, ch 1, sh in sh, turn.

5th row.—Ch 1, sh in sh, ch 15, sh in sh, ch 1, 1 dc, continue through the row, turn.

6th row.—Like the last row of 1st scallop.

Here is a good way to make a

PRETTY PAPER RACK OR LETTER CASE.

Take the cover of an old book of any size that you wish; cover the outside with black satin, either painted or embroidered with some pretty design. Line with crimson silk or satin; sew crimson ribbons upon the short side opposite each other, and tie in pretty bows; the upper ones must be left considerably apart to allow the papers or letters to be slipped in; then sew a ribbon from the top of the two ends to hang it up by. A pretty finish to put on the overhanging seam around the edge is a fancy silk cord.

Try this plan for a

BED SPREAD.

Cut squares 13 inches square from butcher's linen or bleached cotton; stamp the middles and work them in outline, sew together and feather stitch the seams.

That is indeed a handsome edging. I should think that a bedspread made after the design you give would be very pretty and unique, and I should like to try it myself if I had the time. By working it in white silk, it could be made dainty and elaborate enough for a bride's chamber.

Do I see the door opening gently? Come in, Goldenrod; what is that you were saying? You must not be bashful.

"I have been waiting outside for the past ten minutes, as I did not wish to interrupt the sister Bees; but the buzzing grows louder every second, so at last I have decided to join in and say my little say with your permission, Queen Bee. I have brought you patterns for Fan Chair Tidy and Crocheted Suspenders and I also bring a few other little hints, all of which I trust will please the Queen Bee and workers."

Another time you must come right in, and not stop outside. Take the little rocker, and tell us about these pretty things.

CROCHETED FAN TIDY.

Chain 12. Turn, and make 5 rows of single "bars" in double crochet, 25 "bars" in each row, looping between the double crochet till 5 rows are made. Chain one between "bars" in 5th row. Four rows of 2 "bars" looping into shell and no chain between. One row of 4 "bars," no chain. One row of 2 "bars," 1 stitch between, and thread over twice from here. Four rows of 4 "bars," no chain between. One row of 12 "bars," no chain and thread over 3 times.

to wear the little sacks and socks, some of our friends are sure to need them.

"Just try this little edging," says Mrs. L. W. Palmer. "It is pretty and simple, and narrow crochet patterns are not as common as the wider ones."

O. K. EDGING.

Chain 6, turn. 1st row.—Make 1 dc in 4th st, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, miss 2, 1 dc in next st, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, turn.

2d row.—Ch 3, 8 dc under 1st ch of 2, 8 dc under 2d ch of 2, 1 dc on 1st dc made in the 1st row, turn.

3d row.—Ch 3, 1 dc between 1st and 2d dc, counting from hook, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, skip 7 dc, 1 dc between 7th and 8th, ch 2, 1 dc in same place, turn.

Repeat from 2d row. Will some one give directions for making a fascinator, please?"

CROCHETED BABY SACK.

Use Germantown yarn. Make a ch of 42 sts, crocheted loosely enough to be 9 inches long. This is the neck.

1st row.—Make 3 more sts, turn and put a sh of 3 dc in every 2d st of the ch, at the beginning of each row make 3 ch to keep edge straight, this makes 21 shells.

2d row.—In the centre of each of the shells of the 1st row make a sh of 2 dc, 1 ch, 2 dc. All the shells are now made in this way.

3d row.—Same as 2d row except widening by making an extra sh between 4th and 5th shs, 5th and 6th, 16th and 17th, 17th and 18th shs in the preceding row.

4th row.—Widen between the 12th and 13th, 13th and 14th shs.

5th row.—Widen between 4th and 5th, 7th and 8th, 20th and 21st, 23d and 24th shs in 4th row.

6th row.—Widen at beginning and ending.

7th row.—Widen between 5th and 6th, 10th and 11th, 23d and 24th, 28th and 29th shs in the 6th row.

8th row.—Plain.

9th row.—Widen between 5th and 6th, 12th and 13th, 25th and 26th, 32d and 33d shs of 8th row.

10th row.—Plain.

11th row.—Widen between the 5th and 6th, 15th and 16th, 27th and 28th, 36th and 37th shs of preceding row.

12th row.—Widen between the 5th and 6th, 16th and 17th, 29th and 30th, 40th and 41st of preceding row.

13th row.—Work the 1st 5 shells plain then skip 13 shells and put the next shell in the 19th shell of 12th row, work 12 more shells plain (these are across the back), then skip 13 more shells and work the last 5 shells plain. The shells skipped are for the sleeves.

14th row.—Widen under each sleeve and on each side of the back. Crochet 6 times across plain.

Now, for the sleeve, work plain shells across the 13 you skipped and your last shell to where you began. Ch 3 and go around, joining as before. Continue until you have 7 rows around, the other sleeve should of course be made in the same way, and don't be alarmed if there is a large hole under each sleeve, for this should be filled with a few shells to form a small gore. For the border, which should be made all around the sack except the neck:

1st row.—Make loops of 5 sts each, fasten them into the edge of the shells.

2d row.—Make loops the same and fasten into the top of those in the 1st row.

3d row.—Same as 2d row, except 2 sts should be made in the place of the 5. This forms crosses to run ribbon through.

4th row.—Shells in every 2d loop of the last row.

5th row.—Scallops of 5 trs in every shell.

6th row.—Small loops of 4 ch in each tr of scallop.

Make this same border around the sleeves. For the collar make 21 shells. Now run ribbon through the crosses and finish with ties of the same.

"Is the hive full?" asks D. G. B. "No, not quite? Well, I will step in this way and take a seat by the Queen, though I am a little afraid of her. A pretty

LAMBREQUIN

is made by crocheting a piece 12 or 14 inches wide, leaving 3 rows of open work through it. Run ribbon of contrasting color through this, making a bow at end. Crochet deep points and fringe them.

SUNFLOWER PINCUSHION

is also quite pretty. Use brown velvet for center, sewing loosely over cardboard and stuffing hair or cotton in between. Cut the petals as near like those of a sunflower as possible. Make these of yellow silk. With some kind of strong glue, paste them to a thick paper. When dry, cut out and sew on all round. It is best to have two sizes, as you will have two rounds. Fasten to a stem with leaves.

A small gourd cut down one-half, lined with silk, with curious buttons, stones, glass, etc., glued all over it and suspended with silk cord or ribbon, forms quite a pleasing curiosity basket or button receptacle.

INFANT'S CROCHETED BOOT.

Make a ch of 40 sts. Use Germantown yarn. 1st row.—* 30 sc, ch 2, skip 2, 15 sc, slip stitch the 2 remaining sts for toe, turn.

2d row.—Slip stitch 2, 15 sc, putting needle through each single loop from you (called ribbing), ch 2, skip 2, 20 sc, turn and repeat from * until you have 12 rows (or 6 ribs).

3d row.—* 20 sc, ch 2, skip ch, sc in end of ch, turn, 1 sc, ch 2, 20 sc, repeat from * in 3d row until you have 6 more ribs, then join with sc, having ribs lengthwise and ending at open work, then make a slip stitch in next st and turn.

To make heel, make 1 sc in each open place all round the heel, fasten with 1 slip stitch at side, turn, sc around the heel putting the holes through both parts of the st, slip stitch 2 on the side, turn, slip stitch 2, sc round the heel, sc 1 more from the side, turn, sc all round the heel to toe, slip stitch 2 by 2 (drawing wool through 2 sts at once) around toe, sc all around to heel, sc 2 by 2 around heel, sc to toe, slip stitch 2 by 2 twice at toe, sc all around the foot; when you get to toe turn boot wrong side out and join together from toe to heel with sc, picking up a single loop from each side. Make border of different color.

For the border, join the wool in between 2 ribs, * ch 3, slip stitch in 3d st from top to rib, ch 3, fasten in top of edge between the ribs; repeat from * through the row, run cord and tassel through row of holes round the ankle, or ribbon if you like.

These patterns are very pretty, but it seems as if something finer than Germantown yarn would be better to use in making them. Would

Saxony be too fine? My experience of German-town is that it is rather hard and coarse. As Mrs. Packard speaks of the universal desire to get something new and pretty in designs for babies' socks, etc., suppose we have one meeting devoted to that subject? say in September, and all bring as many pretty patterns for socks, sacks, afghans, blankets, bibs, etc., as they can find.

Time is up, sister Bees, although I am sorry to be obliged to say so. Come early next time, and bring your friends with you. Good-bye, and a pleasant journey!

Contributions solicited from those who enjoy this department; descriptions of novelties in the line of fancy work specially desired. Please accompany directions for edging with a sample of the same.

I cannot furnish addresses, or answer letters by mail. Address, BUSY BEE, (Care of COMFORT Pub. Co.)

Write to FRANKLIN PUTNAM, 485 Canal St., N. Y.

HE IS THE MAN

who STARTS MEN and Women in Practical Photography to earn money at home. Start Right! Don't fool away money on "Dummy" apparatus. But small means and no experience required. It will PAY YOU.

BABY CARRIAGES

Shipped anywhere to anyone at WHOLESALE PRICES. Latest A \$5.50 carriage for \$2.95. Styles. A \$12.50 " " \$6.95. A \$18.50 " " \$9.75. Send for 40-page illustrated catalogue free. CASH BUYERS' UNION, 363 Dearborn St., B 1 Chicago, Ill.

RUBBER

\$2 per 100 sq. ft. Guaranteed water-tight. Write for Book Circular.

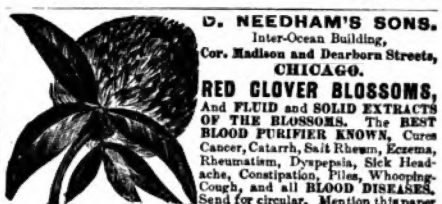
Sample mailed free if you State Size of Roof. IND. PAINT & ROOF CO. 42 West Broadway, N. Y.

ROOFING

Please mention COMFORT when you write.

HIMROD'S CURE FOR ASTHMA

Catarrh, Hay Fever, Diphtheria, Croup and Common Colds. Send for a Free Sample. Himrod Manuf. Co. 191 FULTON ST., NEW YORK.



Please mention COMFORT when you write.

WALL PAPER

LARGE VARIETY. LATEST STYLES. AT FACTORY PRICES. BEST QUALITY, WITHOUT GOLD, 4c. to 5c. PER ROLL. GOLD PAPER, 8c. to 10c. PER ROLL. FINEST EMBOSSED PAPER, 15c. to 30c. PER ROLL. SAMPLES SENT on receipt of 10c. for postage. GOMO PAPER CO., 57 Third Ave., Chicago. Please mention COMFORT when you write.

GENUINE FLAX FIBER-WARE

Water and Dairy Pails, Wash Basins, Pitchers, Milk Pans, Spittoons, Slop Jars, Etc., etc. Guaranteed Light, durable. Plain and Decorated. Always bears this Trade-Mark. Ask your dealer for it.

WOODBURY'S FACIAL SOAP

For the Skin, Scalp and Complexion. The result of 20 years' experience. For sale at Druggists or sent by mail, 50c. A Sample Cake and 125 page Book on Dermatology and Beauty, illustrated; on Skin, Scalp, Nervous and Blood Diseases and their treatment, sent sealed on receipt of 10c.; also Disfigurements like Birth Marks, Moles, Warts, India Ink and Powder Marks, Scars, Pimples, Redness of Nose, Superfluous Hair, Pimples, etc., removed. JOHN H. WOODBURY Dermatological Institute, 125 West 42nd Street, New York City. Consultation free, at office or by letter. Opens a.m. to 8 p.m.

SIR HENRY THOMPSON, the

most noted physician of England, says that more than half of all diseases come from errors in diet.

Send for Free Sample of Garfield Tea to 319 West 45th Street, New York City.

GARFIELD TEA

Overcomes results of bad eating; cures Sick Headache; restores Complexion; cures Constipation.

DRESSMAKING SIMPLIFIED.

Any Lady Can now Learn to Cut Perfect-Fitting Dresses. Protected by Pat. 1879-1885. 1885-1886. No one using a Chart or Square can compete with The McDowell Garment Drafting Machine in Cutting Stylish, Graceful and Perfect-Fitting Garments. Easy to Learn, Rapid to Use, Fits any Form, Follows every Fashion. An invention as Useful as the Sewing Machine.

Free 30 days to test at your own home. Send for Illustrated Circular. THE McDOWELL CO., 6 West 14th Street, New York City. Send 35 cts. for copy of our elegant FRENCH FASHION BOOKS, explaining how to cut latest styles. Please mention COMFORT when you write.



"He consulted with the police."

THE FLIGHT OF RICHARD BERING.

BY MCKENDREE BANGS.

SYNOPSIS.

Michael Bering starts one evening to call upon his brother Richard and nephew, Richard Jr. Just before reaching the house, sees Richard Jr. leave in great haste; thinking there has been a family quarrel which is not infrequent, he returns home only to be summoned shortly to go to the house of his brother who has been murdered. Mary Irving, the ward of Richard Sr. is there mourning the loss of her friend. She hates Michael and has very short conversation with him. Richard's will is opened, which discloses the fact that Michael and Richard Jr. are to be joint executors. Richard Sr. and his son quarreled because the young man wants to marry Mary Irving, and on the evening of the murder they were alone in the library, and Richard Sr. wants Mary to have other suitors in order to be able to select a husband; Richard Jr. leaves room in anger, and meets Mary in hall, he tells her his father's wishes, and she asks: "Is he going to bring these men here, or must I seek them, these men I must choose among?"

CHAPTER III. THE VERDICT.

In course of time the police learned, or believed that they did, that Richard Bering, Jr., had embarked upon a sailing vessel for San Francisco. Then the inquiry before the coroner was proceeded with. Michael Bering testified to what he had seen on the night of the murder, and the policemen and detectives told what they had discovered and stated their theories. Then the verdict charging Richard with the crime was rendered.

To Mary Irving, Michael Bering was very attentive; but he was wise away and he did not for a long time permit his attentions to become annoying to her. Upon the night of the murder he had shown her that he suspected Richard; but he had realized at once his mistake. That mistake he would not make again. He would do nothing further to excite, nothing more to deepen her sympathy with Richard. He hoped that she would gradually come to think of his death as an assured fact and that then she would not be inconsolable. He would have been glad to keep from her all report of the proceedings before the coroner; but that could not be. He feared that the report of his testimony might anger her; but if it did she made no sign. When the verdict was reached she did express her abhorrence of the injustice which had been done to Richard.

"It is wrong, it is cruel. Oh, it is so cruel! How dare they treat an absent man so. Oh, if I were a man!"

"I am a man, Mary," Michael said quietly. "What can I do?"

"Do?" she responded. "Defend him. You might find him."

"You must remember, Mary, that everything possible has been done to find him. And in his absence we are so helpless in his defense. Besides, that need not trouble us. When he returns he will be so fully able to defend himself, why we will laugh to think that we ever thought it necessary."

This disarmed her directly. She felt that she had perhaps been unjust to Michael Bering to have been so distrustful of him.

"You will forgive me," she said. "I know that nothing more could have been done."

Michael noted the change in her manner, and was much gratified. He felt that he had made a very certain advance. To have already removed her distrust was to have done much, and with time and patience and discretion he might do much more. Patience and discretion he would have no difficulty in finding; but for time he might have to struggle.

He consulted with the police. He found that they were pursuing no other clues; that, indeed, they had but one theory and upon that alone they were acting. "If we had any doubt about it," said the head of the detective force to him, "we might not be willing to speak so freely; but there cannot be any doubt. It is all so plain, the motive, everything. To be sure, it is strange that he should fly and so throw away whatever benefit might have come to him; but he must have been frightened. They often are, such men. I am afraid, sir, you will have to give your nephew up as a bad one."

"I am sure, I hope you will find that you are mistaken. But if he is guilty?"

"He can't escape us. It will be a blow to you, of course, but it will have to be borne."

Michael had delayed as long as possible the preparation of the schedules and statements he had promised Mary; but at last he took them to her. She looked over them listlessly.

"I suppose," she said, that they are all right; but really, you know, I have no head for business."

"I do not want to trouble you more than is necessary; but I would like to consult you from time to time as I re-invest your fortune."

"You will have to re-invest it soon?" she asked.

"Yes," she answered, "I suppose that that must be so."

"I want to do all that I can, and the best that I can for you."

"Thank you; I have no doubt of that."

"And you will not blame me," he went on, "if I consult with you freely?"

"No, I cannot do that. I know the responsibility must seem very great even to you. It would overwhelm me."

Through all these days Michael Bering was very careful, very considerate of Mary Irving's comfort. He was very adroit. He never was unwelcome. Fortune favored him, too. If Mary needed advice or help of any sort Michael was on hand to give it. In her deep mourning, she was very secluded, of course. Some of her dearest friends would condole with her or ask her questions of Richard, or, maybe, sheer too obviously their sympathy. Michael never did. If, in the search for diversion, she sometimes felt she must have, she chose to take a drive nothing was more natural than that she should ask Michael to accompany her. With an active mind, with an extensive acquaintance with men and affairs he could be very interesting and he was. Always certain of his ground and of himself, he chose topics of conversation which completely changed the current of her thoughts while they were together. Sometimes she even ventured to ask him to take a driving lesson, a fast horse he owned and was very fond of. These drives she found much pleasanter than the more formal ones; they exhilarated her. But often in the reaction she would accuse herself of disloyalty to Richard, that she could so enjoy herself in his absence and while he was suffering she knew not what. But she would not permit herself to indulge in any morbid thought, and she knew, too, that if Richard could know, he would much prefer that she should seek all the pleasure she could. She had not known that Michael Bering could be so adroit, she was a little bit ashamed of her past distrust of him. She still kept the house, and still maintained the establishment pretty much as it had been at Richard Bering's death. She felt the need of some companion of her own sex, some more or less elderly woman who could live with her. Michael, however, did not think it wise to find it as easy to help her in this matter as he had in some others. Still, he appeared to be solicitous and active in the search, and she did not suspect him.

"I feel that I can never be sufficiently grateful to you for all the trouble you have taken for all your kindness," she said to him once with evident feeling. "I am very glad to have been of some use to you," he said as he took his leave.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

An Easy Way to Make Money.

Dear Readers:—I read the correspondents letters. Some raise 100 bushels of corn per acre, some raise three or four crops per year of many varieties, but when I read how that young man made \$3000 plating knives, forks and jewelry, I did not believe it. Yet, it looked so reasonable that I ordered a \$5 plating machine from H. F. Delno & Co., of Columbus, Ohio. When unpacked, to my surprise it went to work like a little giant and I looked on. It does the finest of gold, silver or nickel plating and is the greatest money maker I ever saw. Any one can get circulars by writing.

A READER.

PRICE We Sell DIRECT TO FAMILIES
PIANOS ORGANS
\$150 to \$1500
Absolutely Perfect!
Sent for trial in your own home before you buy. Local Agents must sell inferior instruments or charge double what we ask. Catalogue free. **MARSHAL & SMITH PIANO CO.,** 235 East 1st St., N.Y.

All Frontier Adventure Gathered into One Book.

OUR PIONEER HEROES AND THEIR DEEDS
Thrilling exploits of all American border heroes with Indians, outlaws and wild beasts, from earliest times. Boone, Kenton, Brady, Crockett, Carson, Custer, Comstock, Buffalo Bill, Gen. Miles, Geronimo, Sitting Bull, Indian Chiefs, the Ghost-Dancers' War, etc. 290 Engravings. Boys not and Home P. Pub., Box 7361, St. Louis, Mo.
Please mention COMFORT when you write.

Spray Pump Free. Salary Paid Agents. It sprays Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Plants, Lawns, Street, Gardens, Pines, Outdries, washes wagons, windows, Bails boats, Whitewashes henhouse, Controls swarming bees. Cattle syringe. Used in cotton gins, mills, cooper shops. Throws water 60 feet. Sample free if you become agent. You must send 10c to help pay this ad. We send complete pump and 3 attachments. If you don't want agency send \$2.00. Circulars free. **A. B. SPIERS, B 80, No. Windham, Maine.**

I WANT LADIES AND GENTLEMEN TO INTRODUCE (among their friends) Dr. STEWART'S "Quick" Headache Cure. Cures the worst cases of SICK, NERVOUS or BILIOUS Headache and Neuralgia in 10 minutes. Contains no opiates—leaves no bad effects. Price, 25 cts.; costs agents 12 1/2 cts. To be paid for when sold. One package sent FREE, with full particulars and AGENTS' TERMS, on receipt of 5 cts. (stamps) to pay postage. **C. W. DUNCAN, Newark, N.J.** Please mention COMFORT when you write.

TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL IN YOUR OWN HOME.
First class Sewing Machines at Wholesale Prices.
\$35 Standard Singer Machine for \$9.50 | \$55 Arlington Machine for \$19.50
\$45 | \$15.50 | \$60 Kenwood | \$23.50
All latest improvements. Light running. Noiseless. Warranted 5 years. Complete set of attachments FREE. Send for catalogue and save money. Mention this paper. Address **CASH BUYERS' UNION, 360-364 Dearborn St., B 255 Chicago, Ill.**

FREE
For 30 days. In order to introduce our CRAYON PORTRAITS in your vicinity, and thus create a demand for our work, we make you the following bonafide offer: Send us a good photograph, or a tintype, or a daguerreotype of yourself, or any member of your family, living or dead, and we will make you one of our finest CRAYON PORTRAITS free of charge, provided you exhibit it to your friends and use your influence in securing us future orders. Cut this out and return it to us with your photograph, with your name and address back of photos, so we can ship your portrait accordingly. **Tanqueray Portrait Society, 741 De Kalb Av., Brooklyn, N.Y.** REFERENCES: Rev. T. DeWITT TALMAGE, D. D., and all Commercial Agencies.

NATURE'S CURE FOR ASTHMA
FREE ON TRIAL.
The WONDERFUL KOLA PLANT (HIMALYA), discovered by African Explorers on the Congo River, West Africa, is NATURE'S SURE CURE FOR ASTHMA. No Pay until Cured, and Positive Cures Guaranteed. Importing Office, No. 1164 Broadway, New York. For Book and Large FREE Trial Case, sent by Mail, address, Central Office Kola Plant, No. 132 Vine Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Christian Observer and Medical Journal, April 9, 1890. The Christian Evangelist, May 30, 1890, says editorially: "The Kola Plant is a gift direct of God, to sufferers from Asthma, and His blessing will rest upon Stanley and associates, explorers of the Dark Continent. It is an unfailing cure for Asthma." Remember, No Pay Until Cured.

THE DOLLAR CAMERA AND OUTFIT COMPLETE
A GENUINE PHOTO-TAKING MACHINE, NOT A TOY, But a Perfect Picture Producer, to be set up and used in any home.
In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manufacture this Complete Photographing Outfit, which will be our leader during the coming season. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut and mentioned below: A strong and perfectly made CAMERA, which will take a picture 2 1/2 inches square, complete with adjustable holder for Plate and PERFECT LENS with cap; A package of the renowned "Harvard Dry Plates"; 2 Japanned Tin Developing Trays; 1 Printing Frame; 1 package Blue Process Paper; 1 sheet Ruby Paper; 1 package Photo Mounts; Hyposulphite Soda; Developing Chemicals; complete and explicit instructions, enabling anyone to take ANY CLASS OF PICTURES with this Outfit. Now please remember that you are not buying a Camera ONLY but a complete and PERFECT outfit, all ready for use without further expense to you. No such Outfit has sold heretofore for less than \$50.00. Everything is carefully made and prepared and bound to work perfectly. A wonder to all who see it and its work. You are not restricted to any class of pictures. You can take Landscapes, Portraits, Buildings, in fact ANYTHING. The whole, securely packed in a wood case for shipping. Be your own Photographer. How many places of interest and friends that are dear, do you encounter every day whose image you would like to preserve? With this Outfit you can do it and almost without expense. It contains all the necessary materials. The instructions "do the rest." **PRICE ONLY \$1.00** by express, by mail postpaid \$1.15. Given for a club of 8 subscribers to COMFORT at 25 cts each.

"WORTH A GUINEA A BOX."
BEECHAM'S PILLS
CURE
SICK HEADACHE, Disordered Liver, etc.
They Act Like Magic on the Vital Organs, Regulating the Secretions, restoring long lost Complexion, bringing back the Keen Edge of Appetite, and arousing with the ROSEBUD OF HEALTH the whole physical energy of the human frame. These Facts are admitted by thousands, in all classes of Society. Largest Sale in the World.
Covered with a Tasteless & Soluble Coating.
Of all druggists. Price 25 cents a Box.
New York Depot, 365 Canal St.

FREE SILVER SPOONS
To introduce my goods quickly I make this liberal offer: I will give any lady One Dozen Tea Spoons, Heavy Silver plated, latest artistic design, warranted to wear, who will dispose of 1 Dozen Boxes of Hawley's Corn Salve (warranted to cure) among friends at 25c a box. I ask no money in advance, simply send me your name, I will mail you the silver spoons paid. When sold you send me the money and I will mail you the 1 dozen handsome Tea Spoons. If you find you can't sell salve, I take it back. I run all the risk. Address **R. HAWLEY, Chemist, Berlin, Wisconsin.**

HOW TO MAKE A FORTUNE.
WANTED—Salesmen; who can easily make twenty-five to seventy-five dollars per week, selling the Celebrated "Pinless Clothes Line," or the Famous "Macomber Fountain Ink Eraser"—Patents recently issued. Sold ONLY by salesmen, to whom we give Exclusive Territory. The Pinless Clothes Line is the only line ever invented that holds clothes without pins—a perfect success. The Macomber Fountain Ink Eraser is entirely new; will erase ink instantly, and is king of all. On receipt of 50c will mail you sample of either, or sample of both for \$1, with circulars, price-lists and terms. Secure your territory at once. Address **THE PINLESS CLOTHES LINE CO., No. 121 Hermon St., Worcester, Mass.**

IMPORTED CONCERT FLUTE.
A beautiful, rich toned instrument, producing soft, delightful music. You can learn to play at once, even though entirely ignorant of music. The notes are marked and the music we send with it is numbered in like manner, instead of being printed in notes. You can learn one of the easy pieces in a few minutes. A strong, durable instrument; will last a lifetime. Elegantly finished. Cannot get out of order. We send with it a lot of music numbered as explained above. Perfect satisfaction guaranteed. Send a once, and in the Concert Flute you will have "A thing of beauty and a joy forever." Postpaid, 25 cents. Address, **BATES & CO., 74 Pearl St., BOSTON, MASS.**

RIPANS TABULES regulate the stomach, liver and bowels, purify the blood, are safe and effective; the best general family medicine known for biliousness, constipation, dyspepsia, foul breath, headache, heartburn, loss of appetite, mental depression, painful digestion, pimples, sallow complexion, tired feeling, and every symptom or disease resulting from impure blood, or a failure by the stomach, liver or intestines to perform their proper functions. Persons given to over-eating are benefited by taking one after each meal. Price, 1 gross \$2; 1 bottle 15c. Address **RIPANS CHEMICAL CO., 10 Spruce St., New York.** Agents Wanted; EIGHTY per cent profit.

\$15.00 Buys a Gent's Gold-Filled (OPEN FACE) WATCH (COMPLETE) with Elgin or Waltham Movement. Guaranteed to wear 15 years. Sent C. O. D., with privilege of examination before paying for same. Address **C. R. BLAKELY, Bradford, McKean Co., Pa.** Please mention COMFORT when you write.

DRUNKENNESS LIQUOR HABIT.

IN ALL THE WORLD THERE IS BUT ONE CURE **DR. HAINES' GOLDEN SPECIFIC.** It can be given in a cup of coffee or tea, or in articles of food, without the knowledge of the patient, if necessary. IT NEVER FAILS. 48 page book of particulars free. Address **GOLDEN SPECIFIC CO., 185 Race St., Cincinnati, O.**

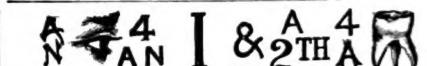
ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS

Cash, Gold Watches, Sewing Machines, Silk Dresses, Silverware, Jewelry, &c. FOR SOLVING THIS REBUS.



The above Rebus illustrates in seven words what we send to those that solve this Rebus correctly, by mail. To the First Person sending a correct answer before June 30th, 1892 we will give

TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH. To the Second, \$75 cash. To the Third, a Bag of Gold. To each of the next 5 a Solid Gold Stem Winding Watch. To the next 5 a \$50 Sewing Machine. To the next 3 an elegant Silk Dress Pattern, 14 yards, and to the next 3, should there be as many, each a \$50 of Silverware. To the person sending in the last correct answer we will give \$50 in cash. To the next last \$5 cash. To the next 25 each a nice piece of Jewelry. With your answer to the rebus send 25 cts. in silver or postal note or 30 cts. in postage stamps for a subscription to our illustrated 16 page Paper, worth a \$1.00 a year. Paper and prizes will be sent on receipt of answer. As soon as the contest closes, a printed list, giving the names of the successful contestants, will be mailed to each person. This offer is made solely to advertise our Publications and introduce them into new homes. Answer quick and you may get a Bag of Gold and a Sewing Machine. Write your answer, name and P. O. address plainly, and send subscription money to **E. F. NASON, PUB., 132 CHURCH ST., NEW YORK.**



The above Rebus is an OLD SAYING familiar to all Bible readers. **WHAT IS IT?** We will give to the first person from whom we receive the correct answer before June 30th, 1892, **\$100.00 IN GOLD.** To the next, an elegant High Grade Safety Bicycle (26 in. wheels). To the next 3 persons, a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 16 yards in Black, Blue, Green, Brown or Fancy. To the next 10, a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring, and to the next 15 sending in the correct answer, \$5.00 each. To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer we will give **\$100.00 IN GOLD;** to the next 5 persons, as above described; to the next 5, a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 16 yards in one of the above colors; to the next 10, a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring, and to the next 15 (should there be 80, to each, we prepay all shipping charges on presents, and send in accordance with this offer on the same day the answer is received. All answers must be sent by regular mail and received by us not later than June 30. With your answer send 25c in silver or 30c in stamps for a trial of our **DR. HOBBS' LITTLE VEGETABLE PILLS** or a Porous Plaster. If you want both the Pills and Plaster send 50c in cash or 55c in stamps. **REMEMBER!** The presents are absolutely GIVEN AWAY to introduce and advertise Dr. Hobb's Celebrated Remedies. We guarantee perfect satisfaction or Money Refunded. Remedies sent to any address by mail. A GENTLEMAN WANTED. Immediately after June 30th a printed list giving the names and addresses of the successful contestants will be mailed to each person who has sent in an answer.

DR. HOBBS' LITTLE VEGETABLE PILLS gently yet promptly on the Liver, Kidneys and Stomach, dispelling Headaches, Fevers and Colds, cleansing the system thoroughly, and curing all chronic constipation. They are sugar-coated, do not grip, very small and purely vegetable. **DR. HOBBS' AROMATIC GUM PLASTER** is a superior Porous Plaster prepared from Gum Olibanum (the Frankincense of the Bible), the Gum of the Eucalyptus tree of California, Belladonna, and other gums extracted from Botanical Aromatic Herbs. For Colds, Weak Backs or Sores, and all other ailments of the body they have a soothing and curing effect. They act like magic, leading physicians to recommend them. **DR. HOBBS' REMEDIES.** Address **HOBBS' MEDICINE CO., Cor. Harrison & Dearborn Sts., Chicago, Ill.** If our readers answer the above advertisement please mention COMFORT.

A GREAT SEED SACRIFICE.

A \$10,000 Loss turned to your Gain. **CHOICEST FLOWER SEEDS** come from France and Germany; some rare varieties often bringing a dollar for a single seed. A large publisher because of an immense shipment of the finest flower seeds ever brought to America, and, as you see, in unloading at the pier, an awful accident occurred. Now, as each kind must be put up in small, separate packets, this seed have been a complete loss, but, hearing of it, and knowing its value, we bought the whole cargo of exquisite flowering seeds, getting in the whole assortment some of the highest cost kinds ever grown. We have thoroughly mixed them, all kinds, and put them up in elegant packets, containing over 200 varieties, to give away as premiums to COMFORT. All you have to do is to send us a box, and when they get large enough to transplant, you can set them out, and have a most elegant flower garden for nothing, and, as the rarest seeds are mixed in, you obtain what has sold for dollars and dollars for cents, nothing, and in the Summer and Fall can pluck beautiful bouquets of Pansies, Petunias, Asters, as well as the many rare flowers here shown.

Special. Having found a box of LATEST-CRAZE-IN-CHRYSAANTHEMUM seed in the lot all safe, we are going to enclose one package of this popular seed also.

OUR OFFER is this: To every one sending us 12 cents for a 3 months' subscription to COMFORT, we will send perfectly free, postpaid, these packets of seeds and our ELEGANT BOOK OR MANUAL, as a guide to the culture of all flowers and plants. Its many pages are loaded down with practical hints and helps to everybody, on all sorts of plant life, and describes how to arrange fancy window and garden decoration; is worth a half-dollar to any one, but, being determined that you and all your friends shall take COMFORT 3 months longer, we give all of these free if only 12 cents is sent to pay postage and expense. 6 subscriptions and 6 lots for 60 cents.

\$100.00 CASH GIVEN AWAY! BEST YET. To the person sending in the greatest number of these 12-cent subscriptions, at rate of 6 FOR 50 CENTS, before June 1st, we give a cash present of \$50.00; to the second largest, \$25.00; to the third, \$15.00; to the fourth, \$10.00. Remember, you get 12 cents for each lot, and send us 10 cents at club rates, then you also stand a chance to secure your part of the ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS. Can any Publisher be more liberal than this? Send your 12 cents to-day for sample lot of Seed Packets, Manual and Magazine, then get your clubs. Address **MORSE & CO., SEED DEPT., Augusta, Maine.**

SEED ACCIDENT ON THE WHARF
Illustration of a seed packet and a person holding a box of seeds.

"I can never be sufficiently grateful to you."

"Not all of it, of course; but the separation should be made, I am advised, and Richard's portion held in trust until we are more certain of his fate. Until his return, I mean," he added quickly, careful now to do nothing to arouse her suspicion or her opposition.



MY DEAR FRIENDS:

There are so many pleasant and cheering letters in my mail-bag this month that I hardly need to say much to you myself; it seems to me that you ought to have all the room possible to talk among yourselves. Our column is truly a Sunshine Corner, such beautiful, bright thoughts find a place there. It is easy for those who are enjoying good health and prosperous circumstances, to preach cheerfulness and content; but when the sweet words of trust and patience come from some suffering one, over whose life the shadows have fallen, they seem to have a new and deeper meaning.

"A serene sky is always pure; clouds may pass across it, but they do not stain it. So is it with the heart that early in the morning opens to receive God's Peace."

Here is our cheery Shut-In friend once more.

"I have received such hosts of letters bristling with interrogation points, that with dear Auntie's permission I would like to answer some of them here. When first 'called aside' by illness I thought there was nothing to hope for but a speedy release by death. To see all my life plans in ruins, was harder to bear than the physical suffering. I felt I could not have it so, and besieged heaven day and night with selfish prayers and complaints. After a time, however, I grew ashamed of myself, and began to look about me and think. I found others had taken up my duties, and the world rolled on as evenly as ever. The wee ripple made by my fall from the ranks had long since subsided. I was still on earth, but no longer necessary to the proper working of mundane affairs. It was mortifying, but only what all invalids experience. Then I made up my mind to give up with a good grace. I would bend every energy to getting well, but I would be happy and content while waiting. Then I began looking for something to do. Lying prostrate on my bed I could write, but nothing else. The first year of my invalidism I earned \$160, writing stories, but that did not satisfy me, as it benefited only myself. Then a friend called my attention to the 'Shut-In' work. Eureka! I had found it! I joined a circle of invalid King's Daughters, a Comforting Circle, and other societies of the same sort, and asked the leaders to make use of me in every possible way. I dare not take space to tell of the grand work being done; of the little helps given, of the comforting letters sent and received, of the good reading passed on, of the bits of useful experience made known. In His Name we have helped cast out the fear of death, the dread of pain, impatience, selfishness, bitterness, despair, from many hearts. I have now no more long idle hours. There is always something to think of, something to do. I wish more would unite in the good work. Those who are willing to help, can write to Mrs. H. K. Munroe, Millersville, Penn., and get particulars. My determination to get well is as strong as ever, and my physician says it has a good deal to do with the marked improvement that has taken place in my health. So I say as before, dear friends, don't be despairing. Don't give up. Will the cousins give me a letter party on my birthday, May 12.

MARIA JOHNSON,
Pardeeville, Wisc."

"God bless your brave, unselfish heart, dear sister! What a lesson this is to those who possess good health and every advantage, yet live only for self, bending all their powers upon the increase of their own happiness and it is a suggestion to many of those whose life-plans have been interrupted, by illness or otherwise. Is there not something yet that you can do for others who are worse off than yourself? If you can write, then there is enough work to keep hands and heart full; for the pen has been a veritable angel of mercy to many a lonely sick-room.

"I love to read the cheering heartfelt Christian letters from so many. I am a Shut-In, have been for 8 years; in all that time I have never been free from pain. I am truly an invalid, but one with a theory, which although I do not often speak of, I try to live every hour. This theory is that the Father will not permit anything to come to me which I cannot bear. Whatever is inevitable is the best way possible, according to my limited understanding. I have not allowed my interest in the world to flag. I enjoy literature in nearly all its forms. I go abroad with those who travel and so feel as though I have really been away myself. I enjoy very much too all kinds of Christian books and papers. Yes, I read stories sometimes; they seem a necessity and take the place of real companionship, for I have the gift to live in what I read, picturing it all out and really for the time dwelling in it. Dear invalid friends and others, do not I pray think always of yourself as invalids; while submitting to present privation, do not yield to a passive submission, for it is the worst of chronic mental diseases. Hope always that you are to have a share in the real life and work of this beautiful busy world, it makes our own burdens easier to bear. It tries me very much to write, but if our Christian sisters would be so kind to write to me and help me, they can in many ways. My husband is only in the house long enough to get his meals, so you see my dear cousins I am alone, only for the good Lord; I have Him to look to. I would like some silk and velvet or worsted for my quilt; would like reading matter of all kinds except hard novels. My husband would be grateful for good newspapers also.

Mrs. H. W. BROWN, Kinde, Huron Co., Mich."

Sisters who can write, I remind you once more of your opportunity to help a lonely sufferer. A score of cheering, sympathetic letters would bring a flood of sunshine into this dear friend's solitary life; and those who can send reading matter, do not forget her request for herself and husband.

Miss F. C. Metcalf, Box 52, Elgin, Ontario, would like the cousins to give her a "letter party" on May 30. Next month I intend to begin a regular birthday list of those who would like such remembrances. All who wish their names on the list must send them in at least three months before the date of their birthday, or they cannot appear in season.

Here are some kind words from a sympathizing friend:

"To the dear Shut-In cousins I send warmest greetings, and wish that I could reach out through the long distance and shake hands with you all to-day, but as this cannot be, will have to content myself with just having a little pen and ink chat with you! Dear ones, shut in from the beauty and glory and sunshine of the beautiful outside world. Yet how sweet to reflect that you are not shut in from the eternal sunshine of God's love. And though perhaps you may not understand now why the cross is laid heavily upon you, yet you will know in God's day, 'Bye and Bye,' for never until then will the 'mists be cleared away.' But thank God! we will be permitted to see clearly then, and will fully understand the

'whys and wherefores of this life.' I am glad to think that there are no headaches or heartaches, or physical ills of any kind in that fair City of God, where the inhabitants never say, 'I am sick.' I have a number of 'Happy Hours' magazines, 'The American Housekeeper,' 'Ladies' World,' and other reading matter to give away to anyone sending stamps for postage. Would like the cousins who are engaged, or interested in Christian work to write to me.

(Miss) SADIE R. JOHNSON,
Scarboro, Hartford Co., Md."

"I live in the Southern part of good old Georgia, and will give the cousins a little description of my home. On the left of our house is a high hill covered with stately pines, and at its foot is a beautiful little brook by the side of which I used to spend many happy hours. But that time is past, for I have been a helpless invalid for three years, never able to go out of the house. In front of our house, about a mile away, is a mountain from which is being taken corundum in large quantities. I am too poor to take any paper but COMFORT, but I love to read; will not the cousins send me something?"

Miss S. L. F. SNOW, Monroe, Ga."

What a beautiful view you must have from your window! That is so much better than the dreary brick walls and dusty pavements which are all that many poor sufferers have to look at in the long weary hours. God's sunshine and fresh air are wonderful tonics.

Dear Auntie:—Since the insertion of my letter in COMFORT I have received over 100 letters from your nieces, also reading matter from a great many. Thanks, dear ladies, for your kind interest in my sad gloomy life. You may be proud of your nieces, Auntie, for they are certainly worthy. Excuse me, gentlemen, as I haven't heard from but 3 or 4 of you, therefore I can say but little in your behalf. There are many of the dear cousins that will ever be cherished in my memory, although their faces I may never see in reality. But nevertheless their sympathetic hearts are beating to mine and they are ever before my eyes in the dark shadowy regions of imagination. Wisconsin Wild Bill, you are a dandy sure enough. Be frank cousin mine and just come out and say that an unknown correspondent captured your heart and then rejected you, and let the girls take you at just what you are worth. I would suggest that the girls of Wis. search those bluffs (as soon as the leaves get down) for cousin Bill, very likely he has hanged himself over some love affair or else eloped with some gypsy maiden. I am still a Shut-In, but my dear afflicted friends we must look on the bright side and remember that our sufferings are nothing compared with the sufferings that were inflicted upon Our Redeemer on that rugged cross. Remember dear Shut-Ins that it is God who afflicts His people and we should not murmur against His works. So let us be cheerful and content and thank God that it is no worse with us than what it really is. I most heartily sympathize with you all and wish you every blessing that God can give. Very truly,

THOMAS BUNTON, Carter, Lineback Co., Tenn.

"The Shut-Ins have my greatest sympathy, for I too am one. My health has been very poor for 13 years; have never seen a well moment in all those long years. Oh people with health, you know not how sad we poor Shut-Ins feel; but we have many things to be thankful for, if we are deprived of our health, God sends us many blessings, and we can do a great deal of good for our Heavenly Father; so let us cling to Jesus and never give Him up. When I get discouraged and heartless, and this world and its surroundings look so dark and gloomy, I just go to God in prayer and there reveal all my heart to Him; and when I get through I feel like a new person. He lifts such a heavy burden from my soul and makes me happy again. I am a poor woman, and in need of treatment, but am not able to go and be treated. I have asked Jesus to show me a way that I may get the money to go and be treated, and I have faith He will. Now, poor Shut-Ins, do not get discouraged, but put your trust in Jesus.

L. E. PIKE,
Glade Run, Pa."

"Just as God leads me, I abide,
In faith, in hope, in suffering true;
His strength is ever by my side;
Can aught my hold on Him undo?
I hold me firm in patience, knowing
That God my life is still bestowing,
The best in kindness sending."

"I know of a poor Shut-In whose lot is especially hard, because added to the physical suffering are mental tortures and harshness, almost at times a refined cruelty, from those who should be tender and kind to her. All is borne with a silent patience that is pitiful to see. Some days she can do some light work, as she lies on her couch of pain. Recently the house has been burned, and all the little helps to while away a weary hour burned also. This sufferer now lives on a lonely farm, far from neighbors. If any one has books to spare, or crazy scraps, and will send them to me, I will see that they are safely placed in her hands.

Mrs. E. N. M. GILMAN,
Lynnfield, Mass."

That is a sad story indeed; not only to suffer, but to be unkindly treated too, is a hard fate. Are there not some kind hearts who will help to make this sad life a little brighter?

Charley E. Williams, Palmyra, Wisc., in whom the cousins have before been interested, would like to have them all send him cancelled stamps. And to his request I will add the following list of those who would be glad to aid in various ways.

Mrs. M. E. Morgan, Quamab, Hardeeman Co., Texas.
Em. E. Brown, Sebrice, Webster Co., Ky.
Mr. B. C. Knight, Enfield, N. C.
Mrs. Mary Dyke, Hull, Sioux Co., Iowa.
Miss Emily M. Wheaton, North Branford, Conn.
I will also say that W. H. Willcome, Ipswich, Mass., will write letters of Christian sympathy to any Shut-In wishing for them. With loving wishes,
AUNT MINERVA.

AN OLD RULE.

"If you do not see what you want ask for it." The Provident fund society of New York City is ready to answer all questions in reference to accident insurance. Professional men now unemployed if they desire a light, pleasant and lucrative employment can secure such by addressing the above institution.

18 SQUARE
Inches Old Gold, Red, Blue, Pink or White
Satin, all stamped, suitable for Pin Cushions,
Sachet, etc., sent for 10 cents silver.
MILLINER, Box X Augusta, Maine.

FREE. This cut is a reduced picture of the watch we offer FREE, in exchange for a good timepiece. Fine nickel plated case, the face is protected by a heavy bevel glass crystal. The works are Swiss make, finely jeweled. It has an entirely new patent winding arrangement found in no other watch. No key required. It keeps as good time as watches costing \$25 to \$50. Has a key or no key dial, but a guaranteed first class watch free to one person in each locality who will answer this advertisement and help by sending no money. If you want a watch send us names of 10 readers and 10 cents silver or 12 cents in stamps for our Magazine on local, regular price 30 cents. Ours is a reliable house and we will send watch as we agree by return mail or for \$10. National Ill. Magazine, No 10 Washington, D.C.

HOW TO BUILD A HOUSE.

If you are thinking about building a house you should send 25 cents for my new book containing plans and specifications for 25 houses, all sizes, from 2 rooms up, costing from \$300 to \$5,000. A book of great value to all who desire to build a house, and will suit you almost as well as if you paid \$5 for a book. Sent post-paid on receipt of 25 cents. Address
J. B. OGILVIE, Publisher, 67 ROSS ST., New York.

A NEW HAT FOR 10 CENTS.

ONE NIGHT HAT RENOVATOR makes old hats as good as new, changes light hats to serviceable black ones. Try a package now! Mailed to any address upon receipt of 10 cents.
Palmetto Pharmacy Co., Charleston, S. C.

IT IS BEAUTIFUL & IT COSTS YOU NOTHING. To beautify and adorn your home with a superb sample HIGH ART CRAYON PORTRAIT of one of your family. Simply write your name and address on the back of the photo, and send it to us at once. Enclose stamps for photo, safe return. You are not asked to buy a frame. Your praise our future profit. REFER to any Express Co. reaching Buffalo. National Artists' League, 22 Court St., Buffalo, N. Y.

THE NEW IDEAL EMBROIDERY MACHINE.

Perfectly Simple. Far Superior to any other. Requires no Skill. 3 sized needles with each machine. We offer agents liberal terms. Send your address and get catalogue with new designs free. NEW IDEAL EMBROIDERY MACHINE CO., 44 So. Clinton St., Chicago.

FREE PENKNIVES.

To advertise the cheapest jewelry and agents' supply house in the world, we propose to give away several thousand TORTOISE-SHELL and BONE-HANDLED penknives and our book of 350 fine engravings to any person sending 5c. for postage, etc. Write at once and get the benefit of this grand offer. Address,
H. KNOBLOCH & CO., 1195 Broadway, New York.

Newcomb Fly-Shuttle Rag Carpet LOOM. Weaves 100 yards per day. Catalogue free. C. N. NEWCOMB, 326 W. St. Davenport, Iowa.

ON 30 DAYS' TRIAL.

EGGLESTON'S ELASTIC TRUSS. Has a Pad different from all others, is cup shape, with Soft answer CUP OUT THE CUP, adapts itself to all positions of the body, while the ball in the cup presses back the intestines just as a person does with the finger. High light pressure the Hernia is held securely day and night, and a radical cure certain. It is easy, durable and cheap. Sent by mail Circulars free. EGGLESTON TRUSS CO., Chicago, Ill.

A TUB OF SILVER

CAN BE MADE IN THREE MONTHS by any person who will send us their address AT ONCE. We do not wish responses from the rich, for this is a BOON for the poor or middling class, that need a few thousand dollars to put them on their feet. Such an opportunity never crossed your path before. A case of goods will be sent you by express, if you send 10 cts. for package and postage that will open your way to fortune. Address, H. A. ELLIS & CO., 161 LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.

"Why stand ye all the day idle?" **10 DOLLARS PER DAY** is not easily made in these times, but it can be made working for us in any locality. We have agents that have made more than \$25 per day, the whole secret is we have something that every housekeeper wants and will buy at sight without any urging. If agents prefer will pay a straight salary of \$75 per month and expenses. Full particulars sent free to all points where we have not already secured an agent. Exclusive territory given. Can refer to any express company in Boston as to our integrity. Address, (in full.) **STANDARD SILVERWARE CO.,** Order Dept. 140 Boston, Mass.

30 CTS. WILL BUY A WOMAN

A Beautiful Pearl Necklace. The latest novelty from Paris, and the most richly beautiful and charming articles of adornment in the market. Measures 1 foot and 8 inches in length, and each Necklace has 19 genuine ocean Pearl shells, and over 1,000 crystal beads. They are becoming very fashionable. There is nothing about them to tarnish or wear out. Each shell gleams with opalescent lustre, and in lamp or daylight sparkle like diamonds. Every lady should have this beautiful Necklace, as nothing else makes such a charming necklace to be worn with any costume. We send the Pearl Necklace and our Illustrated Family Magazine, same size as the \$3.00 Story Papers, 3 months, postpaid, for 30 cents (stamps taken). You will be delighted with it. Send 30 cents to G. C. VISIT, Box 3,139, BOSTON, MASS.

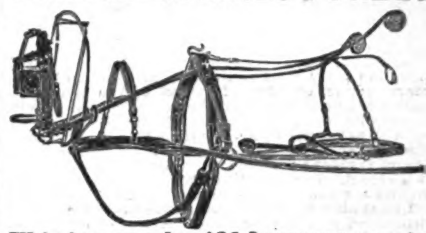
LOOK! THIS ELEGANT WATCH AND CHAIN

is what it will cost to register and mail or express the HARBORNEST and finest gold time keepers, best make, warranted to be better than hundred that are sold every day for \$10.00 or \$12.00 each. We know if you show it after you get it that we can sell hundreds, so to get them started, we are going to give away one to every town or city. All you have to do is to get 20 subscribers for our beautiful magazine, and we send you this superb Premium for 25 cents extra cash, to give express. As we only have a limited number of these to give away, you should get up your club at once. They sell quick for \$8.00, and on a trade some realize \$12.00 or \$15.00 for them. Now is the time. **MORSE & CO., Publishers, Augusta, Me.**

TELEGRAPHY

THE MORSE OUTFIT, \$3.75.—Complete for Learning Telegraphy and operating short lines. Consists, full size, well made Sounder and Key Set, Battery, Instruction Book, Wire, and all materials for operating. Sent by express for \$3.75 by registered letter, Stamps, Express or Money Order. Illustrated Book with description of instruments, How to put up Telegraph Lines, Electric Bells, &c., free to any address. Electric Motor and Battery Complete, postpaid, \$1.00. **J. H. BUNNELL & CO., 76 Cortlandt St., N. Y.** Largest and best Telegraph Supply House in America.

SAMPLE HARNESS FREE!



This is a regular \$20 harness but in order to introduce our goods and get agents working for the next 90 days, WE WILL SELL THEM FOR \$6.87. **ONE FREE** to us with \$1 as a guarantee of good faith, and we will send the harness to you by express, C. O. D., subject to examination, and if you find it all we claim and perfectly satisfactory, you pay the express agent the balance \$5.87 and take the harness. OTHERWISE **PAY NOTHING!** When cash in full \$6.87 accompanies the order WE SEND FREE a genuine felt saddle pad, worth \$1. This single harness is made of genuine oak stock either in bright or black trimmings, with patent leather blinds with either side or overchecks; heavy breast collar and patent leather saddle, and double and stitched traces. All parts are accurately made and sewed by experienced labor. If you want a harness or can sell one or wish to **SELL SIX AND GET ONE FREE**, order immediately, this is your last chance to get a \$20 harness for \$6.87 as this ad will never appear again, address **FLOUR CITY HARNESS COMPANY, 222 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.** Mention COMFORT.

THIS HANDSOME ONE DIME WATCH FOR

Send 10 cts. in silver to-day and you may secure one of these handsome watches FREE as premiums to each of the first 100 persons sending 10c. for a Golden Box of Goods and the correct solution of the rebus herewith. The letters and characters when accurately solved depict one of the larger Western states of the Union. Send your answer to-day. WHICH STATE IS IT? Do not confuse this bona-fide offer with the delusive and doubtful premium donation offers with which the papers are inundated, whose thousands of dollars in gold annually. I make no such idle boasts, but restrict myself to only such **FREE** premium promises as I know I can carry out, with a view to advertising my specialties—a fact which is known



all over the United States, and has conducted to make my house one of the most reliable and largely patronized in the country. **MY GREAT OFFER:** With your answer CUT OUT THIS COUPON and send it with 10 cts. in silver for a GOLDEN BOX OF GOODS that will bring you in more money than anything else in America. Absolutely certain. No capital required and suitable for either sex. This simply means that all get more than the value of their money, and in commensurate with the terms of this offer you may get one of these beautiful watches FREE! I absolutely Give Away 100 of these Handsome Watches. This is a bona-fide offer emanating from a thoroughly reliable house. Write your name and address plainly, and mail your 10 cts. in silver at once. **W. S. SIMPSON, 37 College Place, N. Y. City.**

FALSE MUSTACHES, Goatees, Beards and Side Whiskers. GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES! Fun for the Million!

Here you are, boys. Just the thing for a little harmless fun. These mustaches are made of the best material. GENUINE HAIR, NICELY CRIMPED. They have a wire attachment by which they are to be fastened to or removed from the face with ease, and when worn cannot be easily told from the real production of razor and soap. Boys and young men can have LOTS OF FUN by putting them on in a crowd of friends, who will be greatly astonished at the sudden transformation. The mustaches are attached to the face with wax, and like the mustaches can be REMOVED and REPLACED as often as desired. For PRIVATE THEATRICALS, AMATEUR MINSTREL SHOWS, CIRCUSES, TABLEAUX, and all other different characters are to be represented these hair ornaments will be found invaluable. Our two illustrations show ONE and the SAME PERSON, the difference in appearance being caused ENTIRELY by wearing our different styles of hair appendages.

A youth of sixteen, wearing one of our mustaches; the SECOND with full beard. Any boy or man who change their present appearance in the SAME MANNER as shown in our illustrations. We furnish our mustaches and goatees in six colors—gray, red, light brown, medium brown, dark brown and black. In ordering, state color desired. BLACK and RED are the colors usually sold.

Price of mustaches 1 cent each; four for 25 cents; one dozen for 40 cents; goatees 5 cents each; four for 25 cents; one dozen for 40 cents; mailed postpaid.

FALSE BEARDS AND SIDE WHISKERS.

There is nothing that will so COMPLETELY change one's appearance as a false beard. A boy can be INSTANTLY transformed into a middle-aged man, that even his parents would fail to recognize. We have two styles, "FULL BEARDS" and "SIDE WHISKERS WITH MUSTACHE," as shown in illustrations. They are suitable for MASQUERADE PARTIES, PRIVATE THEATRICALS, TABLEAUX, PARLOR ENTERTAINMENTS, etc. They can be easily adjusted to or removed from the face and young men can have any amount of fun by putting them on at EVENING PARTIES or elsewhere. The transformation is wonderful and we guarantee that the wearer of one of our beards will not be recognized by his NEAREST friends or relatives. They are made from good material, nicely crimped, which gives them a WAVY, NATURAL appearance. We have a full assortment of colors, GRAY, RED, LIGHT BROWN, DARK BROWN, MEDIUM BROWN, and BLACK. In ordering send a small lock of hair, or state color of beard desired. Price of FULL BEARD, as shown in cut, 60 cents; price of SIDE WHISKERS WITH MUSTACHE, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00, sent by mail postpaid. Address **MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.**

Young Folks' Department



MY DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS:

Who has been Maying this year? Perhaps you do not go in other parts of the U. S. as we do in Maine; merry parties of young folks off to the woods and rocky pastures as soon as the snow is gone, coming home with their baskets full of the lovely, sweet-scented arbutus. It is a shy little flower, and means that you shall hunt for it; under the coarse brown leaves it hides away, and a careless eye would never discover it. The hepaticas have come too, and the fragile anemones; do you know those?

I want all my young folks to love flowers, and to be interested in studying them. A German poet has said, "Flowers are the beautiful hieroglyphics of Nature, by which she indicates how much she loves us." Better still, we may believe that they were placed upon the earth by our Heavenly Father, to give us pleasure, and to show His love for us.

Well, there are a good many letters this month, and I will not take up any more of our space myself. There were a few of my little folks' faces on the pictorial page last month; how would you like some time to have a page all made up of your pictures? Suppose we ask the Editor what he thinks of that.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have come to thank the cousins for their kind and sympathizing letters and receipts sent me. I am glad to see so much interest taken in the Shut-Ins by the cousins; as I am a cripple, I know they need sympathy, although God has blessed me with kind and loving parents to care for me. To David Preece, Bee Caves, Tex., its no use to try to keep even with the girls, they are already ahead of us. With best wishes for all, I remain your loving nephew,

JOHNIE P. PEARCE,
Augusta, Miss.

"We live in a beautiful little valley where there are a great many coyotes and prairie dogs that kill chickens and spoil all they can. The prairie dogs are real cute looking, coming out of their holes and barking at people as they pass them. There is one mission church and two schools here; I have been attending school all the time. I have one brother and two sisters, Fred, Bertha and Eva, Fred is 13 years old, I am 10, Bertha is almost 4, Eva is almost 1. We have 4 cats, just 1 piece, and a fine Scotch collie; he is a great pet, even the cats like him. I would like a girl correspondent about my own age."

Your niece,
IDA M. HOFER,
St. Peters Mission, Cascade Co., Montana.



A MAY MOVING.

A MAY MOVING.

You're surprised to see us going,
But you know we couldn't stay,
'Cause everybody's bound to move
Upon the first of May.

We've been living in the attic,
And though well pleased with that,
Have concluded for the coming year
To take a larger flat.

We found it in the hayloft,
(Where the sun creeps through a crack.)
But p'raps when Mamma calls on us
You'll see us coming back.

E. L. S.

"I am a little girl 12 years old. I live in North-western Kansas, in a sod house. I never saw any fruits or nuts growing on trees. We have not raised anything here for the past 2 years. I live 1 mile from a station on the Rock Island. I should think it would be very nice to live where there are trees. There are owls and prairie dogs and rattlesnakes here, and they all live in the same holes."

EVA PAGE, Delivale, Kans.

I suppose my young folks will think I am very ignorant, when I tell them that I have never seen a prairie dog, and don't know what they look like. Some day, "when my ship comes in," I mean to travel in the West, and see all the curious and wonderful sights in that part of our great country. Perhaps I shall "go consoling," and visit my nieces and nephews; how would you all like that? It would take me a good many years if I stopped long with each one.

"I am a little girl 13 years old. I live in the northern part of Cal. where there is nothing but hills, sand and sage brush. I will tell you of a plan my playmates and I have. We take all the pretty pictures we find and paste them in a book and then write stories about them, it makes a nice scrap-book."

Your loving niece,
CARLOTTA DODD,
Long Valley, Cal.

That is a very nice idea, Carlotta. If you do your very best to make the scrap-books neat and pretty, they will be interesting for you to look over when you get to be young ladies. Did you ever make any scrap books for the poor children in the hospitals?

"I have been taking COMFORT for 3 months. I like to read the letters better than all the rest of the paper put together. I live in Decatur, Ill.; it is a city of about 18,000 inhabitants and has a great many manufacturing and is next to the largest railroad centre of Illinois. We have 2 very nice parks and the city is making the old fair ground into one. The Modern Woodmen of Illinois had a picnic at Riverside Park last summer. There was a balloon ascension and parachute drop, also boat, tub and swimming races and grassed pole walking, etc. I will ask all the cousins to send me something for a remembrance, a photo, autograph or anything they wish. I will answer all letters. From your nephew,

PERCY S. EWING, 632 Monroe St., Decatur,
Macon Co., Ill.

"I have been standing on the threshold, for oh so

long, before I could summon courage to make my presence known by a timid tap on your door. Now I think I hear some one say, 'Come in.' What a cheerful place this is, to be sure. Aunt Minerva seated in her easy arm chair, the owls on either side, blinking solemnly, are the center of a circle of smiling girls and boys. Cousins from all over the United States, all chatting with Auntie and each other like old acquaintances. Would you like to know how I look, cousins? Well, I am a girl of 14 rather small for my age, I have brown hair and eyes. Can you see me any plainer than before? This will be my second year in the high school. How many of you have read Miss Olcott's books? I have read nearly all of them, and think they are just splendid. I have read many other books too, and I will tell about them some other time, if this letter does not end its days in the waste-basket. I hope some of the other cousins will write and tell of the books they have read. Now I must go. As I walk slowly from the room I think I hear Auntie and the cousins say, 'Isn't she a talker though!'

With love,
MARGUERITE.

It is a very excellent plan for young folks to tell of the books they have read, and exchange ideas on the subject of reading. Some may tell of interesting books of which others have not heard, and different tastes and opinions will be brought out.

"I live away out West, which would seem like a wilderness to you Eastern cousins. I live in the Black Hills country. The Black Hills are in plain sight of our house. How many of you cousins have ever seen a stone quarry? There is one quite near where I live and I have seen the people work in it quite a number of times. There is pink, blue, white and variegated sandstone gotten out of the quarry. There is a reservation east of here, so I see lots of Indians, and I agree with Moon of Leaves on the Indian question. I saw 1,500 Indians all together once, all painted up for war. I would like to have all the postmaster's daughters of my own age write to me, also some of the other cousins. I am a postmaster's daughter and I am 15 years old."

Your Dakota cousin,
JULIA P. BETTS,
Smithwick, Fall River Co., S. Dak.

"I live in the southeastern part of Colo. The country abounds in beautiful scenery, but owing to a small quantity of rain that falls the soil is not very productive. We have no means of irrigation as we

would rather never be in society than to be like a great many girls that I know. It seems there are very few who have the good sense not to become spoiled by the many temptations open to them in society. I now want to tell the cousins where I live. Nine miles below Helena, near the banks of the mighty Mississippi river, our cottage nestles among the willows and cottonwoods. There are large plantations all around us, where great quantities of cotton and corn are raised. Our land is subject to overflows; 2 years ago our house was washed away while we were all asleep. Now how many of the cousins have had such a thrilling experience. We did not sleep long after we started on our perilous journey. As soon as the house filled with water it sank; papa swam after a boat and we were all rescued."

STELLA M. RABB, Helena, Ark.

Your ideas are very sensible, my dear. I hope you will have an opportunity to get a good education, and become a noble woman, which is so infinitely preferable to being a society girl.

Now I must say good-bye. Your loving,
AUNT MINERVA.



A CLOSE RESEMBLANCE.

Although the imitation's good I'd like to have it understood, This camel isn't quite the same as those in shows and books; But if you've never had a chance To see a real one—take a glance— For this one, as I said before, resembles it in looks.

"Don't Tobacco Spit Your Life Away." Is the name of a little book that tells all about *Notobac*, the only guaranteed cure for the tobacco habit in every form. This book is mailed free. Contains many testimonial letters, reporting cures in ten days and a gain of as many pounds. *Notobac* costs but a trifle, and the man who wants to quit and can't had better write for the book to-day. Address STERLING REMEDY CO., Box 359, Indiana Mineral Springs, Ind.

SPORTSMAN BUY THE AUTOMATIC FISHER.

For brook, river, or sea fishing. Made of brass, nickel plated. Will not rust. Takes place of sinker on fish line. Has strong spring trigger so arranged that the bite of a fish jerks the hook into its jaws, catches him every time. Worth its weight in gold to sportsmen. Sample by mail, 30 cents; 5 for \$1. Catalogue of guns, revolvers, violins, organs, Magic Tricks, free.

BATES & CO., 74 PEARL STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

NATURE'S HERBAL REMEDIES.

"Out of each nook by dingle and brook
The healing blossoms lean and look."

DR. O. P. BROWN'S

Great External Remedy,

HERBAL OINTMENT

reaches disease through the pores
arouses circulation, heals inflammation,
banishes pain. 25 and 50c. Drug-
gists or by mail, J. Gibson Brown,
47 Grand St., Jersey City, N. J. Mention this paper.

LEARN BOOK-KEEPING AT HOME from my book. YOU CAN! Price, \$3.

J. H. GOODWIN, R281, 1215 B'way, NEW YORK.

FREE

For 30 Days. Wishing to introduce our Crayon Portraits and at the same time extend our business and make new customers, we have decided to make this Special Offer: Send us a Cabinet Picture, Photograph, Tintype, Ambrotype or Daguerrotype of yourself or of any member of your family, living or dead and we will make you a CRAYON PORTRAIT FREE OF CHARGE, provided you exhibit it to your friends as a sample of our work, and use your influence in securing us future orders. Place name and address in perfect order. We make any change in picture work without interfering with the likeness. Refer to any bank in Chicago. Address all mail to THE CRESCENT CRAYON CO., Opposite New German Theatre, CHICAGO, ILL. P. S.—We will forfeit \$100 to any one sending us photo and not receiving crayon picture FREE as per this offer. This offer is non-transferable.

Please mention COMFORT when you write.

Automatic Shell-Ejecting Double-Action REVOLVER

only \$5.50

Regular Price, \$14.00

Center Fire.

We Pay the Express Charges. You Pay Nothing until after Examination.

Cut this ad. out and send with your order, and we will ship Revolver by Express C. O. D. for you to examine. If you find it as represented, pay the expressage \$1.00 and it is yours. Otherwise you pay nothing and it is returned at our expense. This Revolver is the Genuine American make, not the cheap foreign imitation sold by other houses. It is Full Nickel Plated, Rubber Stock, Center-Fire, Entire length 8 1/2 inches. Weight 10 oz. 33 or 35 Calibre. Long curved cylinder, very low curved hammer which will not catch in the pocket (as others do) when you would draw in quick accidental time. Five-shot, and a jim dandy. A handsome and perfect arm for home or pocket. When cash is sent, we will give Free a box of Smith & Wesson cartridges with child bullets which will go through a 4 & 4 1/2 Revolvers and 4 boxes cartridges for \$20.00 cash. Address KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St. N.Y.

Improved SMITH & WESSON Model. 3 1/4 Inch Rifled Barrel.

Warranted not to miss fire and to be a Strong and Accurate Shooter.

HAIR ON THE FACE, NECK, ARMS OR ANY PART OF THE PERSON

QUICKLY DISSOLVED AND REMOVED WITH THE NEW SOLUTION

÷ MODÈNE ÷

AND THE GROWTH FOREVER DESTROYED WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST INJURY OR DISCOLORATION OF THE MOST DELICATE SKIN.

Discovered by Accident.—In COMPOUNDING, an incomplete mixture was accidentally spilled on the back of the hand, and on washing afterward it was discovered that the hair was completely removed. We purchased the new discovery and named it MODÈNE. It is perfectly pure, free from all injurious substances, and so simple any one can use it. It acts mildly but surely, and you will be surprised and delighted with the results. Apply for a few minutes and hair disappears as if by magic. It has no resemblance whatever to any other preparation ever used for a like purpose, and no scientific discovery ever attained such wonderful results. IT CAN NOT FAIL. If the growth be light, one application will remove it permanently; the heavy growth such as the beard or hair on males may require two or more applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed as each application, and without slightest injury or unpleasant feeling when applied or ever afterward. MODÈNE SUPERCEDES ELECTROLYTIC.

Recommended by all who have tested its merits.—Used by people of refinement. Gentlemen who do not appreciate nature's gift of a beard, will find a priceless boon in MODÈNE, which does away with shaving. It dissolves and destroys the life principle of the hair, thereby rendering its future growth an utter impossibility, and is guaranteed to be as harmless as water.

It is not an emollient, and does not cause the growth of hair coming, should one desire to destroy its growth. MODÈNE sent by mail, in safety mailing cases, postage paid, securely sealed from observation) on receipt of price, \$1.00 per bottle. Send money by letter, securely sealed from observation. (If correspondence desired, please send a stamped envelope.)

Address written plainly. (If correspondence desired, please send a stamped envelope.)

As same as cash. (ALWAYS MENTION YOUR COUNTY AND THIS PAPER.)

LOCAL AND GENERAL AGENTS WANTED.

MODÈNE MANUFACTURING CO. CINCINNATI, O., U. S. A.

Manufacturers of the Highest Grade Hair Preparations.

You can register your letter at any Post-office to insure its safe delivery.

We offer \$1,000 FOR FAILURE OR THE SLIGHTEST INJURY. OF EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.



Published monthly by MORSE & Co., Augusta, Maine. Terms, 67 cents per year.

Entered at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine, as second-class matter.

Circulation Exceeds 1,000,000 Copies Per Month.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are entered on our books as soon as received, and are always dated from the current issue, unless otherwise ordered.

Postage to all parts of the United States and Canada is prepaid by the publishers.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. When ordering address of paper changed, be sure to give former as well as new address. We cannot find your name on our books unless you do.

PAYERS are only sent up to time paid for in advance. Due notice given upon expiration of subscriptions.

REMITTANCES may be made by Express or P. O. Money Order, Postal Note, Registered Letter, or Draft on Boston or New York.

Postage stamps taken for small amounts.

In writing us be sure to give Name, Post Office, County, and State correctly in every letter, no matter how often you write.

A limited number of Advertisements accepted. Rates furnished on application.

Important.

For a year's trial we will Mail Comfort for only 25c. Knowing we have adopted a Name which carries great weight when it is Solid, and believing Comfort is what every one in the world is after, we will send our Crumbs out 12 months for only 25c. without Premiums, 12 Numbers of which will surely give you Solid Comfort for the whole year and we shall endeavor to cater so much to the Comfort of mankind that any one once receiving a Copy will become a life member to our Subscription list. We trust we may hear from all our friends and learn how they each consider the best way for taking Comfort and we hope to furnish them many hints for happiness. There are thousands of Papers published in the country, but none like "Comfort", and no matter how many Periodicals you are taking, you will surely want to take Comfort, and also get up Clubs so your friends may take it and you receive some of the Premiums for your trouble. Remember the only way to Take Comfort is To Get Comfort for a whole year.



A Child's Love for a Doll.

Did you ever notice the tender, motherly affection that a young girl displays for her first doll? And did it ever strike you as a curious evidence of instinct that a girl just out of the cradle will take naturally to a doll where a boy of the same age won't even look at one? It seems in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that a girl is born with the latent instincts of motherhood, and takes to a doll as naturally as a woman takes to her baby.

It does not make the slightest difference to the child whether her doll cost fifty dollars or fifteen cents. She has the same reverence for it, the same solicitude for its proper treatment, the same attention to pay to it. Whether it be clothed in rags or in purple and fine linen, whether it be made of wax, wood, china, leather or composition, the doll has the same love bestowed upon it.

And it is also noticeable that no amount of misfortune or ill luck that doll may experience can estrange the child's affection. If accident, or the ravages of time, deprive it of an arm, or leg, or both; if continual handling detaches the scalp and leaves the doll bald, trifles of that kind are not considered valid reasons for abandonment, but rather demand a larger share of sympathy and love from the doll's owner. Nay, we have even known an absolutely limbless trunk, headless at that, treasured in its folds of rags as a miser treasures his hoard, and regarded with the same pride that it evoked when in all the symmetry and beauty and youth of perfect dollhood!

Hardly a waking hour is spent without Dolly in the little one's arms, and wherever she drops asleep during the day the mimic baby can be found in her embrace. Then, when the sandman shakes his bag, as dusk is drooping, when the "Now I lay me" is hushed out, and the child is placed in her neat warm cot, one other occupant has to share her couch and stumbers—that dear, delightful, disreputable looking doll!

But hold, modern invention is always making startling improvements and the latest thing just brought out is for the young people who live away from the large cities. We have just secured sale of a new kind of dolls that are absolutely indestructible, and we show you in this cut here how they look; they are 18 inches tall and made of elegant colored goods. In getting this doll up we have overcome the great trouble of weight which has made such a cost in the past when shipping by mail or express.

These dolls are so constructed that you fill them with cotton, hair or sawdust, sewing them up after receiving; it takes but a few minutes to do this and you save at least one dollar and get a pretty substantial doll for almost nothing. They will last for years and be a joy forever to any child who does not want one of those disreputable looking dolls spoken of above but desires a handsome doll as nice as her own sweet self. To introduce our goods Morse & Co. will send one doll for 13c. or 2 for 25c., or give one free with a 6 months 25c. subscription, or for a club of 3 yearly 25c. subscribers will deliver one free.



A THRILLING TALE.

BURNING OF THE HOME AND SLAUGHTER OF THE INMATES. RELIEF FOUND AT LAST.

Our artist has sketched this striking allegorical scene which is so typical of the after ravages of that dread disease La Grippe, which has played such sad havoc among all classes of people the past few seasons. The testimony of all Grip Wrecks, and there are thousands upon thousands of them, is that I felt like a

HOUSE AFIRE

when the Grip was upon me, for I was all aflame and burning up so to speak, and it now seems as though the Heart was burnt out of me, my system is in such a weak and feeble state. Elizabeth Evans living in Virginia writing last Christmas says:

"I thought I would tell you the good that your food is doing. There was a man that had not walked in eighteen months. He commenced using the food and now he can go around to see his friends with ease. I can sell your food readily for I say it is a miracle that I am living. The doctors gave me up and well they might for all medicine had turned against me. When I received those few little tablets you sent me for a sample I found instead of making me low-spirited it brightened me up and I thought it was the thing for me. Now everybody that sees me is wondering and saying that they never expected to see it and they buy the food of me when I tell them it cured me. I believe I could sell a hundred boxes in a little while if I were able to buy it. I know it was the Lord gave me the Oxiën. I had been a sufferer for twenty years and to-day I thank God that I can enjoy this Christmas day as well as anyone. Last Christmas I was in bed; to-day I am sitting in

SLAYING THE VICTIMS.

The great malady has not been satisfied in destroying the best part of the home but after reducing the system to such a state of weakness some incurable organic disease seems to creep in, unless proper remedies are secured many who have had La Grippe and apparently perfectly recovered have afterwards died very suddenly. Those who have been examined showed disease of the spinal column, and the Oxiën Electric Porous Plasters are especially valuable in all cases when the system is run down and any symptom of a Weak Back is developed. Thus our artist in sketching has illustrated the poor victim beset by all the fiends that follow in the Grip wake. Headache comes with hatchet in hand and seems to nearly rend this throne of reason from the body. We think a spear nearly pierces our body through when those Pleurisy or Rheumatic pains come upon us, and our breath is nearly taken away by the rapid Heart throbs of that important organ. Men, women and children are slain by the awful diseases that follow in La Grippe's wake, thus this scene has been pictured in its true significance, showing the onslaught and ravages of the different maladies that have presented themselves even before the fire has been extinguished within the house. But rising up in sight of all this scene of desolation comes the salvation the multitudes have long sought. The agent who proclaims the virtues of Oxiën and goeth forth among the down trodden and unhappy people who realize the calamity that has come upon them comes indeed as a Saviour clad in the armor of health and strength. The Giant Oxiën Co., Augusta, Me., supplies and protects the agent in his or her territory and many have been the appeals to the home office

Extract from letter of Mrs. Emma J. Heffley, 605 E. Broadway, Champaign, Ill.

"I must tell you of one case a man down with La Grippe. He had a high fever and racking headache. He had no money but we let him have the food and in a few hours he was easier and is around now. Oxiën has done wonders for me. I am stronger and suffer less than I have done in eighteen years. I will never do without it so long as it continues to benefit me. I am so thankful for such a remedy."

From D. M. McQueen, Bowerston, Harrison Co., Ohio, Jan.

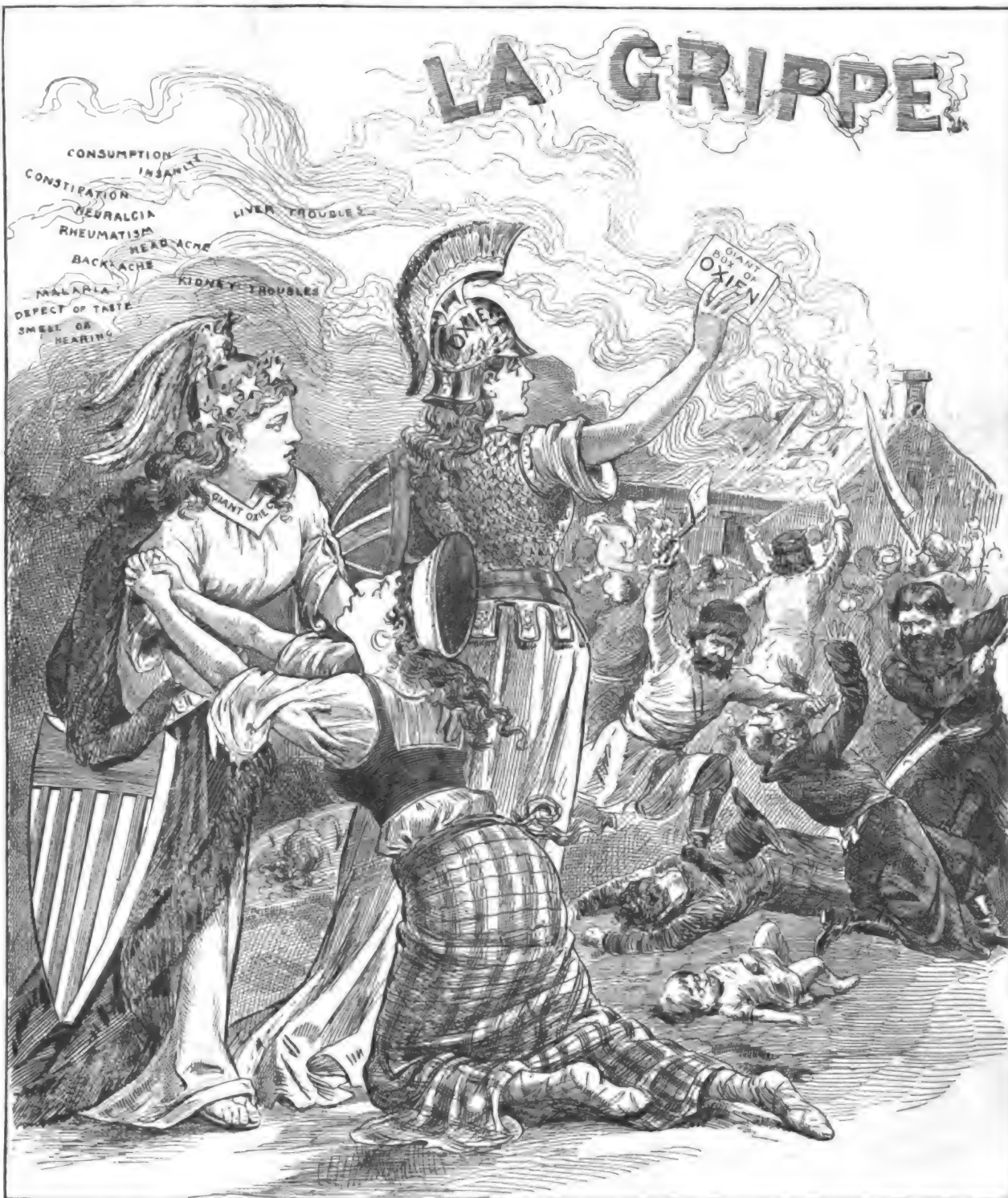
"I received the lot of food yesterday in good order and sold four boxes. It takes with the neighbors at sight. It has worked like magic on wife and myself. Enclosed find money order for another lot. If I had the money I would send for a twenty-five dollar lot, but will order as I can."

Giant Oxiën Co., As stated above, you are now liable to have all kinds of disease creep in and owing to the debilitated condition of the system

DEATH FROM SUNSTROKE will be more common than ever this season and Oxiën has been found to be a sure preventive for this serious difficulty. Nervous prostration will also be unusually prevalent and the wonderful food for the Nerves acts as magic. In all cases that have come to our notice it really surprises the patient by its quiet but marvelous action.

Laffoon, Daviess Co., Ky., Jan. 2, 1892.

Dear Sirs:—I enclose one dollar for your giant box of food for Matilda G. Christian. She has been taking it for lung trouble and is well pleased with it. Yours truly, I. T. Cook.



front of my door writing. It was the Lord's doings for the psalms say, 'The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want,' and He knew I wanted health and He led me in that way. I send you money order for which please send me one dozen boxes as soon as possible as friends are waiting for the food.

Others say: The Grip left me in a terrible state. I have a continual buzzing in my ears and they seem to be stopped up; my head aches nearly all the time; if I take a little cold my throat and chest are choked up; at times it seems as though my heart would jump up into my throat; I can't sleep; I am so nervous that I tremble nearly all the time; I feel tired and have no ambition to work.

This Testimony comes from the people who did not hear of the wonderful food for the Nerves Oxiën, which prevented and cured so many cases of this nature, but all those who try it even after getting into this terrible state of health find immediate relief, for it drives the lurking poison germs from the system and feeds the starved and impoverished nerves.

THE DOCTOR'S WIFE TAKES IT.

Whitney, Hill Co., Texas. Dear Sirs:—The Oxiën came all right and I will tell you it is doing lots of good here. You will please find enclosed M. O. for which send me six boxes of the giant size. I sold two boxes to a doctor's wife and she says it is the best medicine in the world. Send food soon as I will have another order ready when I get this lot. I am going to work in earnest for a large premium.

SUSAN CHILTON.

the past few months. As you notice our artist has pictured out the woman on her bended knee seeking for health, strength and profit, all of which can be secured by those who write now. Samples are sent entirely free with words of good cheer to the helpless or to all who desire to look into the matter further. Remember Oxiën is not a Patent Medicine, it is a genuine nerve soothing, strength giving food—a scientific preparation, Nature's own food. How many persons are now suffering from the causes named above will never be known, but we do know that as a prominent surgeon has lately said:

"Our State and private insane asylums are rapidly filling up from this source. The country is strewn with mental 'grip wrecks,' which will remain with us as a sad reminder after the disease has taken its final departure."

FROM BLAINE.

"It gives me great pleasure to say I took your remedy one year ago. It cured me of a bad case of nervous prostration. I have had a grip attack and it left me in a weak state. I want two boxes of Oxiën for which I enclose you two dollars. Yours, CHAS. CALDWELL, Blaine, Maine."

Oxiën is now enjoying such a large sale that many people wonder what has brought it about. We can only say it is simply its great merit. For it is the most useful, simple, harmless nerve sustainer in the world. It gives double powers of endurance to all without stimulation or reaction. The Dyspeptic or Rheumatic by using the Oxiën Electric Porous Plasters has its most useful element imparted to all parts of the system by absorption. The stomach generally being too weak a state to prepare even simple food for the body.

Gents:—This is to certify that I have taken Oxiën and find it good for nerve and heart troubles. LUCY M. GORDON, Batesville, Arkansas.

From Cyrus B. Purdy, White Plains, N. Y.: Gentlemen:—Please find enclosed one dollar for a giant box of Oxiën. Send it as soon as possible. I have used it before with good results for rheumatism in the shoulder and find it good in keeping off colds. I have also sold some of it but had to give it up as my employment is nights and I have to sleep days. I want the Oxiën this time to build me up as I am somewhat run down from the nature of my work.

Oxiën feeds starved nerves in the same manner that regular food cures hunger, satisfying the enfeebled nerves, taking the place of stimulants, narcotics and the like, leaving no morbid appetite or reactions.

By the many unsolicited Testimonials we have received we prove that Oxiën cures Thousands of helpless cases every year, even where Fit, Idiopathic or Paralytic symptoms have developed, and the patient ever after remaining bright and active. Remember Oxiën is a Compressed Tablet food, it can be carried in the vest or dress pocket. People can work twice as hard as usual and not get tired when using this wonderful food for the nerves. The Oxiën Electric Porous Plasters are a great assistant used in connection with the food, and agents are rolling up wealth who handle these goods.

Write to the Giant Oxiën Co., Augusta, Maine, to-day for free samples and further particulars about plasters and food and learn how to make one hundred dollars a day.

THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY



THE last month of Spring has long been a favorite with the poets. It is the harbinger of the bright Summer days close at hand, and everywhere the advent of May is received with manifestations of delight. In our own country there is not so much distinction given to the first of May as in England and Europe, but the idea is slowly taking root and perhaps among our festivities in the future will be a May-day. In Scotland, where much is made of the day special pains are taken to observe the first day of May, and many quaint and curious customs still prevail there and in England. In great parties the people betake themselves to the woods and fields to engage in the sports arranged for the day. Dancing round the May Pole is familiar doubtless to many readers, though they may not have engaged in the pastime. A long pole is set in the green having long wreaths of flowers reaching to the top. Each wreath is seized by the young men and maidens, who march around the pole singing a May song. When the pole is completely wound up a shower of flowers falls on the lassies and the dance is ended. After that the fairest maiden in the village is crowned with flowers as "Queen of the May," and this pretty custom is immortalized in Tennyson's beautiful poem "The May Queen," which begins you will remember,

"You must wake and call me early,
Call me early mother dear,
For I'm to be Queen of the May, mother,
I'm to be Queen of the May!"

But in the night the poor girl was taken sick and soon afterward died. All through her illness her thoughts were on the May-day and in her delirium she always asked her mother to be sure and wake her early for she was to be Queen of the May. It is a touching poem, one of the best that Tennyson ever wrote and a great favorite with the English.

Exactly when the custom of observing May-day first originated is hard to state, though in all probability it has come down to us from the Romans, who held what they called Floral Games at that time. Later on the Irish and Scotch signalized the day by immense fires on hilltops, but gradually that custom has died out, and the present May Pole has taken its place.



DECORATION DAY.

In beautiful New England we have many customs which are looked forward to in May with an immense amount of pleasure by the young people. One of them being the hanging of what are called "May Baskets," some of them beautifully and artistically made by the deft fingers of our lovely sisters and cousins, who gather themselves in groups of 3 or 4 after dark, and hang these pretty tokens on the door knobs at the homes of the neighboring boys and then ringing the door bell or loudly knocking, immediately run to the nearest shelter to hide from whoever may answer the summons, and who if he has any fun in his makeup will immediately institute search for the guilty parties and if one is caught she is sure to be kissed right royally. Another favorite pastime is going in large parties to the woods in search of the beautiful and fragrant arbutus which is the earliest and choicest of our many wild flowers here, and grows in great profusion in the pine woods and around deserted meadows.

This brings to mind a beautiful custom which I once saw carried into practice in a small village near Augusta. A beautiful young girl who

had won the love of all her young companions, died in a neighboring city and the remains were taken to her early home for burial, the day before the funeral the villagers turned out as a body in search of the lovely pink and white arbutus and the grave was literally lined and padded, and the whole lot covered with fragrant buds and blossoms, no other flowers being seen.

The observance of Decoration Day also comes in this month, and in the whole list of hallowed customs adopted from time to time in the United States, none has gained more steadily in popularity, nor should any holiday be held more sacredly in our minds. For if hero worship should ever be in vogue in our glorious country the noble defenders of our flag should be the first to receive our adoration. Our artist has beautifully depicted a scene which will meet our eyes in almost every cemetery in our broad land on the 30th day of May.

Singular to relate this beautiful month is much abhorred by lovers and a May wedding is generally regarded as an unlucky wedding. As far as possible the young men and maidens are of one mind on this point, and the nuptials are invariably postponed till the leafy month of June.

Aside from this abhorrence of May for marriage there are many other quaint customs connected with it, for instance, as washing the face with dew in the early morning, a practice which still survives in Scotland. Gay parties of young girls make the morning tuneful with merry laughter, and at Edinburgh, the ancient capital of Scotland, many girls may be seen wending their way to Arthur's Seat, a favorite spot for this ceremony.



THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY.

But as the world grows older and more prosaic these customs are now growing more and more obsolete with each successive year. In the cities the day is more given up to the rather practical side of domestic duty, house cleaning. It is also the favorite day for moving, and so general is this custom observed that most of our city houses are leased from May to May. This is a wide departure from the days of May Poles, but after all this is a workaday world, and we must content ourselves with the change in circumstance. It may not be so poetic but it is more healthful.

The month of May is also celebrated for having been the month in which our Saviour's Cross was discovered by the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine the Great. Its identity was established by a miracle. The Empress compelled the Jews to give up that and several other crosses; the body of a dead man was placed on each of the crosses, and when it touched the true one the dead man immediately came to life again. It was also discovered that small pieces cut from it by pilgrims grew on again, and the cross remained indestructible. It is more than likely that this is a fable, but as such it has gone down into history and we must make the most of it. When the skull of John the Baptist was discovered in the same locality it was

found that there were two skulls in the possession of the monks. That was easily explained by the monkish exhibitor who explained, "The other is the skull of the saint when he was a young man, ours is the skull when he had reached the years of skill and wisdom."

Taking it altogether, however, May is a month of more than passing interest, and in years gone by has witnessed the end and the beginning of many great men and notable events.

HENDRIK HUDSON.

June Joy.

Will surely come to those who start now and get up clubs for COMFORT, as you obtain free some of the best premiums ever offered. The Hammock, Hammock Chair, Music Books, Photo Outfit and many others are worth trying for and take but a little time to obtain.

HUSBANDS AND HOUSEKEEPING.

BY BETTY BARTON.

YOU see it was this way. When I married Adolphus, I thought everything was going to be just lovely, and there couldn't possibly be any trouble in keeping house for us two. Hadn't he said, over and over again, that "anything would suit, and he should not care what he had for dinner, if only he could see his dear Betty's face smiling at him across the table," and all that sort of nonsense. Don't take any stock in it, girls. Love and dyspepsia can't occupy the same house; and if you cannot give a man a cheerful home and a good bill of fare, why, live an old maid, and let him keep on dining at the club. It will be much better for both of you.

But here I am, moralizing away, instead of telling you my experience, which will probably have more effect on you than a dozen lectures. Well, we had the dearest little house, a regular "love-in-a-cottage," and the brightest spot in it was the sunny little kitchen. How that new-painted floor did shine! and the tin pans on the shelves reflected the sunbeams like so many new silver dollars. I arranged everything just to suit me, and what vows I made that "a place for everything, and everything in its place," should always be the rule of that domain. I could not look forward in imagination to those days of apostasy when the egg-beater should repose in the knife-box, tin basins hobnob with the best china, and pewter spoons be mingled with their silver cousins in promiscuous confusion. A merciful Providence spared me a vision of my future degeneracy, and I cherished the fond delusion that I would always be a model housekeeper.

For a few weeks all went as merry as a marriage bell. To be sure, the kitchen fire went out several times for want of wood, and I had a terrible time with my fine new iron kettles until some good old aunt told me to boil hay in them. I have since learned something better than that, which is, not to have any iron kettles at all. Save your strength by using the light graine ware, or something of a similar nature, and above all, never use an iron teakettle; they are the champion woman-killers. Then my iron sink persisted in rusting, until I learned not to wash it with soap, but instead, to use greasy dish-water, and once a week give it a good rubbing with kerosene. A little lye poured down the pipe occasionally kept that

clean and sweet and if there was the faintest suspicion of an odor, I gave it a dose of cop peras.

I wasted a great deal of blacking on my stove during the first year of my house-keeping. Every day that ugly black Moloch must be polished, at the expense of aching back, dingy fingers and scorched faces and what was it after all this labor, but a big, hideous mass of iron? Now that stove gets a washing in the dish-water every day, and semi-occasionally the doors and hearth get a bit of a rub. Don't be shocked, my friend the model house-keeper. You may keep on polishing if you will, but life is too short for me to spend in that way, and I think too much of my hands. A mop for dish-washing, and another for the stove, is a wonderful saving for those over-worked members.

But the cooking was the worst. Adolphus bore up bravely for a while, and swallowed all kinds of messes without a wry face. The swill-bucket in those days was a feast of fat things for my neighbor's pigs, garnished as it was with loaves of bread, pans of biscuit, leathery cake, and burnt gems. Finally my patient husband rebelled, and announced that he should take his meals down town if there was not a reform in the domestic regime. Of course I called him a brute, and shed floods of tears; but after he had gone to the office, I decided that he was right, as I am very apt to do. Putting my pride in my pocket, I ran across the garden to one of my neighbors, a kind, motherly soul, and laid my difficulties before her. How they disappeared before her sensible suggestions! I will not encroach upon Cousin Ceres' provinces by attempting to give many of them; but I do want to tell you how to avoid that frequent disaster of your cake sticking to the pan. Do not bother with greased paper, but just grease the pan well, then dredge it thick with flour, and turning it bottom upward, give it a smart rap. All the superfluous flour will fall off, and just enough will be left. I found, too, that I must not tramp about the kitchen or rattle the stove covers when my cake was baking, for the least jar might cause it to fall. For the pies that would run out in the oven, I learned to bind them with a strip of wet cloth, pressing it down securely. A little study of the drafts of my stove enabled me to have less burnt food, and the simple expedient of placing a dipper of cold water in an over-heated oven saved many disasters.

As I said before, Adolphus bore up patiently under these varied trials, and I really began to think that I had a model husband. But never be too sure of a man until you try him through house-cleaning. That is the time that tries men's souls, and women's soles, too, but the sterner sex are apt to think themselves the most abused.

It was a fine April day when I resolved to commence the ceremony. Laboring under the delusion that "the hotter the war, the sooner the peace," I began operations by taking up every carpet in the house, and turning all the rooms into a state of chaos. When Adolphus came home to dinner, the only repast which greeted him, hungry and tired, was a bite of bread and cold meat on a dusty corner of the dining table, with the piano stool for a seat, and the cheering prospect of the backs of all the parlor pictures piled up in close proximity. With a look of despair he exclaimed, "Betty, what on earth have you been doing. Do you



call this a dinner?" with a contemptuous wave of his hand toward the table.

"It's all the dinner you'll get to-day," I replied, a little piqued at his tone. "I have had no time to cook anything."

"What's the use of making such an infernal mess?" inquired my patient husband with emphasis. "You women do love to tear up things. Can't you make me a cup of coffee, at least?"

"No," was my equally emphatic answer; "the kitchen fire is all out, for the man is coming to move the stove. If you— but with a remark that sounded very much like two dashes and an exclamation point, Adolphus seized his hat, and was half way down town before I could recover my breath.

Life was too short to waste in regrets, so I ate some of the despised lunch myself, watered with a few indignant tears, and betook myself to work. Oh, the trials of that afternoon! How I got the carpets out on the line, and the man who promised to beat them not appearing, they bleached all the afternoon in the hot sunshine, and finally a sudden April shower turned their dusty coating into a muddy slime. How the

man did not come to move that day—no, nor the next, and we lived on scanty rations cooked over the kerosene lamp. How the minister's wife called, and the president of the Shakespeare Club, and I, in smutty apron and collarless gown, had to entertain them on the front stairs, as the only habitable spot in the house. And the next morning, behold a pouring rain-storm, which lasted a week. The carpets lay in the shed, the chairs waved their legs in the air, the pictures smiled at the wall, the bric-a-brac gathered dust, we both caught cold from the bare floors and fireless house, and our friends and relations had a mania for dropping in to dinner. Adolphus fretted, and scolded, and swore (Revised Version) and finally settled into a state of ostentatious resignation which was maddening. But I could not blame him so much after all—could you?

Now in conclusion, let me give you a little list of *don'ts* from my own experience, apropos of our subject.

1. Don't imagine you must marry an angel. Think how lonesome he would be with you. Try just a plain man; and 2. Don't expect a man to behave like an angel. He isn't built that way; and 3. Don't believe a man when he tells you that you are an angel, nine chances out of ten he doesn't think so; and if he does, he will soon get over it.

Don't try to do everything "the way mother did." If he liked his mother's housekeeping so well, he should have stayed at home with her a while longer.

Don't expect to keep your husband's love, unless you give him good dinners. Men's hearts and stomachs are very apt to compare notes.

Don't forget that a man has some rights in his own house, and try to give him a place for the sole of his foot, even in house-cleaning time.

It will be easy to do this by not laying out too much house-cleaning in a lump. Take one part one day and get through with it before starting in on more clutter. Think over and lay out your work systematically and you will be surprised to find how much cleaning you can accomplish without turning the house all upside down.

And lastly, remember that "We can live without love—what is passion but pining?" But where is the man that can live without dining?"

A Free Souvenir to all Subscribers.

As we are constantly adding new departments and bringing out new features by which we hope to entertain, amuse and instruct COMFORT's millions of readers, we are anxious to know just what departments and changes interest and please the greatest number of COMFORT's patrons, so we have arranged to send free a pretty little souvenir, The Little Brown Jug of Maine, postpaid to all who will write on a postal card (which will only cost you one cent) to the Editor of COMFORT, Augusta, Me., stating whether they are pleased with the new departments that appear in this month's issue, and also whether they would like more stories or more of the departments after the style of Aunt Minerva's Chats. You can express your ideas in a very few words, and as COMFORT is to be greatly improved and enlarged in the future we would be pleased to satisfy our subscribers in all cases when making changes, so make this offer to hold open for the next thirty days.



MY DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

After having the great pleasure of seeing so many of your faces last month, I feel as if we are nearer together than ever before. Of course only a very small proportion of the great company of cousins could be represented, but perhaps we will have more some other day; and we are all looking forward to our grand reunion at the World's Fair, when we shall be a happy, united family. As I said last month, I am a very proud Auntie, when I see that I have so many fine nieces and nephews, and only wish that there was room for all their letters to be published in full. But as this is impossible, let me urge upon every one the necessity of condensing what you wish to say. Every long letter crowds out a dozen others. And do not cover a page or 20 in telling how long you have been in making up your mind to write to COMFORT, and how much you fear the "dreadful waste-basket." Out of the hundreds of letters that I receive each month, there are not a half dozen whose writers do not refer in some way to the waste-basket. If you could all realize how silly that sounds after I have read it in a hundred letters or so, you would spare me that infliction. Try not to waste your time or mine by writing what you know will only have to be discarded; but say what you have to say as briefly as possible, and stop when you are through, which is a lesson few people ever learn. Many letters are thrown aside, otherwise good, on account of their great length, and the labor required to cut them down to the limit of our space.

The result of the Essay Club competition cannot be announced for a month or more yet. Many members have not renewed, and I remind them once more of the 10c. yearly dues assessed in January. The Club has now about \$2.50 in the treasury; and I would like postal card votes from the members immediately as to whether they will authorize me to give this money to needy persons where I think it will do the most good, or if they wish a committee appointed to dispose of it. The committee on badges presented a report as follows:

Resolved: That the COMFORT Essay Club adopt as its badge, a simple bow of apple-green ribbon.

Resolved: That Aunt Minerva be requested to purchase the badges and furnish them to members of the Club.

GRACE L. ENRIGHT,
SALLY STARK,
MYRTA E. RAYMOND,
FRED WHITE.

I have purchased some ribbon of the required shade, and will furnish the badges at 10c. apiece; this will insure a uniform color throughout the Club, which would not be certain if you bought them yourselves. In writing for badges, put "please forward" on the outside of the envelope, and the letter will reach me sooner. I also have a communication from the

COMFORT MEDICAL BUREAU.

Dear cousins, for convenience and to advance the work more rapidly, we have seen fit to change our secretary and treasurer from Miss Pratt to W. E. Anthony, M.D., as he purchases our medicines at a much lower rate than prescriptions can be filled at local drug stores, and of a better quality. My dear cousins and co-workers, send in your membership fees; associates 50c., Shut-Ins 25c. This is a great and good work benefiting humanity, and those of you to whom the Lord hath entrusted His wealth in your keeping should respond more freely. In this way many helpless ones may be set free and able to earn themselves a competent living and help others. Our beloved physician is doing more than his share. Hereafter all fees and donations to be sent to W. E. Anthony, 64 John St., Providence, R. I.

PRESIDENT.

I am surprised that the cousins do not take more interest in this good work; and I wish once more to call the attention of all Christian workers, especially of the King's Sons and Daughters, to the list at the end of the Shut-In Column. One of the needy ones whose name appeared in that list some time ago, wrote me that all she had ever received was a package of S. S. papers; not even a kind letter to cheer her loneliness or to inquire into her wants. Dear friends, we are not doing the work that we ought, in behalf of our suffering brothers and sisters. Read Matthew 25: 34 to 40th verses inclusive.

I have talked a long time this month, but I am sure you will forgive me, for you know I did not have very much space last time, and there were a good many things to speak of. We will now turn to the letters, and first will hear from some old friends, Kansas Sunflower, Kansas Red Bird, Merry Sunshine, and others whom we have known before.

Dear Auntie and Cousins:—I wonder how many of the cousins have ceased smiling since reading the description of a Kansas sunflower in Sept. number, by Kansas Rat, weeds as a usual thing are rooted out and cast aside; must this be my fate also? Southern Girl, your letter is addressed, or much of it, to Cousin Jennie, but I trust you will not feel offended if I, a Western girl, offer you my hand, and ask you to clasp it across "the dark chasm of sectional hatred." Yes, if we could only understand each other, this great nation of ours would not be divided into different sections, but we would be one not only in name and because power makes us so, but in reality. After the cruel war has been passed and gone so many years, and the veterans who enlisted then, to take part in that great struggle, have many of them enlisted in that grand army over the river, we still continue to hate each other and work against each other. Why should this be so? Although a Northern girl in sympathy, and revering our Northern soldiers, those noble "boys in blue" who fought that this nation might be one so many years ago, I think it traitorous to them for me, or anyone else, to strive to keep up this sectional hatred. The war was fought years ago, to bind us together, not to tear us asunder. And now let us forget that we differed in opinion and remember that we are one, this is our country and this is your country; let us work for its best interests.

Under the sod and the dew

Waiting the Judgment Day,

Tears and love for the blue,

Love and tears for the green.

KANSAS SUNFLOWER.

Every truly patriotic American desires to see our beautiful country united, and sectional hatred a thing of the past. Here in our COMFORT corner, where North, South, East and West meet together, are we not beginning to realize the wished-for harmony?

"Where are our healthy cousins, who should be bright, happy, thankful and cheerful? Where are all the united efforts to cheer our more unfortunate cousins, our Shut-Ins? Why so chary with your kind words and deeds? If some have imposed upon our love for them, never consider the efforts lost to do His will, for the conscience of such people must prick them like so many red hot needles. Do you wish to know the secret of my happiness? and how I gained my pet name, Merry Sunshine? It is this, I count that day lost whose low descending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done. If you wish to secure real, true, heartfelt pleasure and happiness study how to make others happy. Your COMFORT cousin,

MERRY SUNSHINE."

All will welcome this continuation of T. E. M.'s interesting story.

"So the hungry little youngster finds favor in your worthy circle? Well, you are kind people, she is

grateful for your cordiality. Yet remember this is no fancy sketch (if it were, how that child would blossom out) but simple everyday facts. I said a crisis came upon her when she tried to earn a doll carriage by going without eating for a week. Now real crises are as rare as they are interesting, and this event caused a complete change in our lives. Think of it, there was a forger in it—a real forger. We were not the rascals, oh no! or I should have kept most awfully quiet. But my father was doing well; had gone into business with another man, and it was the other man who made so much mischief with his pen. When he was found out and the court awaited him, with strong visions of the jail yawning before his very feet, the rascal came to my poor worried father and offered him about two hundred dollars to leave the country, in order to prevent the prosecution. 'Twas a small sum, yet it meant America and freedom. My father for years had looked with longing eyes toward America; he accepted the two hundred dollars and turned his face resolutely

To the West, to the West,

To the land of the free,"

as the old song has it. There were a few days of hasty preparation, in which my mother did a good deal of mending and shopping, all the while wiping away hasty tears and trying to hide her cares, while father was busy nailing up great wooden boxes of things. Well, while these treasures were being gathered up, we children had great times. I remember my brother Ted and I standing in the kitchen beside a large tub of suds, which, left from some hasty bit of washing, stood in the middle of the floor. Our young, romantic thoughts were all about water, now that the ocean lay before us, and anything in shape of fluid attracted us, even a tub of suds. I stood on one side and he the other, and we gazed dreamily at its surface.

"Say, Poffie," said he, (Poffie was my pet name because I was so chubby.) "Say Poffie, how rough do you suppose the 'Lantic ocean is?"

"Why," I replied, seizing a stick and giving the water a vigorous turn, "I think it is about as rough as that."

"Poo!" said Ted scornfully, "that's nothing," and he looked as wise as if he had sailed the ocean blue all his life.

"Then is it as rough as that?" I inquired, and I swished the suds around till it foamed again.

"Rough as that? That's nothing. You don't know anything about it," said Mr. Ted very tantalizingly.

I gathered up all my strength and whisked the water with such force that it flew in all directions, all over the floor and all over my pinafore too.

"There," said I in desperation, "is it as rough as that?"

"That's simply nothing," said Ted gravely.

"Then," said I indignantly, "we shall all go to the bottom and that will be the end of it," and I turned away in high dudgeon and went to the fire to dry my clothes.

The very day—the very hour came at last when we said good-bye to all our relations; many tears and many embraces, and the train whizzed out of New Street station, bearing us away from smoky old Birmingham, bag and baggage—with a strong emphasis on the baggage.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

T. E. M., Wallingford, Conn.

Aunt Minerva and Cousins:—If I may come in, I would suggest that Wisconsin Wild Bill be known as "The man afraid of the girls." And Bill, please to recollect that "self praise is half scandal." Like Librarian, I received many letters from ladies unknown to me and I have the first one to see yet that I should be ashamed to read to a sister or mother. Some of them are possibly not just what they represent themselves to be, but as long as they write a lady-like and instructive letter, no one shall slander them; not even a King's Son or King's Daughter. Indeed, members of those orders should be above slandering their fellow-men. Aunt Minerva can you tell me where there is an active lodge of the "White

"White

Star?" If any member of the order sees this please

write to me, in love. I wonder how many COMFORT

cousins enjoy their postal autograph album as well

as I do mine; would like to exchange with all the

cousins.

Will some one answer this question about the

"White Star"? I must confess that I have never

heard of it myself.

Here is Wise. Wild Bill to speak for himself; you

see, girls, that you have not scared him out of exist-

ence, or into silence.

"In my last letter I asked if I could come again, and

you all know I was told 'to try and see,' and so I will.

I wonder how many of the cousins, who have children

of their own, think of what they are doing when they

give their children a book or a paper to read? I know

many mothers and fathers whose hearts ache, as only

a parent's heart can ache, just because they have a

wayward child. I tell you that nine cases out of ten,

it is all because they have not had the right kind of

reading. I would just like to urge two points, and

these are: 1st. Provide your children with something

to read, for if you don't they will provide for them-

selves; and then 2d. Look out that what you provide

is good. I am in favor of having a COMFORT Reunion.

Let us have it some time during the summer, when

the World's Fair is in session at Chicago. We ought

to have some place picked out where we could have it

and then have it published in COMFORT so we would

all know. Perhaps some of those 'Indignant Girls'

will then have a chance to give me a shaking up, etc.

Will all those that are in favor of having me tell

about a trip to Holland please raise their hands? Perhaps

Aunt M. would like to hear something about how

the people live there and about the great dikes, etc.

Your true nephew, WIS. WILD BILL.

I know we should all enjoy very much a letter about

that interesting country, if you can write from per-

sonal observation. Suppose you write a series of

short letters, which I can publish in successive num-

bers of the Chats, giving incidents and adventures of

your trip, descriptions, etc. And we will give space

to Kans. Red Bird, too, that he may defend himself.

"Equal rights to all."

"For the benefit of Indignant Girl and several

others wanting to know why I corresponded with

girls who wrote such 'filthy letters,' I will say for

your own special benefit Indignant Girl, that I

answered their request for correspondents and the

letters I received from three of them would make a

'Government mule' blush. I can stand any reason-

able amount of 'smut,' but that was entirely too much

for me to put up with. I have corresponded with a

good many COMFORT cousins, or young ladies, and

with the exception of these three, they have all

proven themselves ladies of the highest order. Wise

Wild Bill, you are a trump, and I most heartily en-

dorse your sentiments. Who will exchange geologi-

cal specimens with me? KANSAS RED BIRD.

I have been a constant, interested reader of your

department, and consider it the most enjoyable part

of the paper. Yes, and of any paper I have ever seen.

I am a young man of twenty and an active worker in the Y. M. C. A. It is a grand work. There are over 1,500 associations in the U. S. and they have a membership of over 500,000. The Y. M. C. A. is in every country in the world, even in the East. In Japan, China, India, Cape Colony, Persia and all over Asia, Africa and Australia. Even in Jerusalem there are two associations. The association takes a young man by the hand with a friendly, cordial grasp, takes him away from the saloon, bad company and the streets, and brings him among fine manly young men. There he finds true friends and companions; it gives him a comfortable place to spend his spare time and evenings, gives him everything that will interest him and make him feel at home, that will strengthen him physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. My masculine cousins, if you are in a town or city, find out the Y. M. C. A. and you will find true sociable young men and the best of company. John B. Gough says, 'Young man, keep your record clean; and that is the greatest thing for anybody to do. Young men, be manly, stick to your colors and be sure they are the right ones. Don't pull them down for sneers and mocks. In their hearts they will respect you for holding to the right. Go in to win, and use all the talents God gave you and you will. My cousin, do as the celebrated evangelist, Chas. H. Yattman said, 'Keep sweet.' Keep your temper, your thoughts, and your actions sweet, and work will become easy, and troubles will be as nothing. Your nephew,

ROBERT S. VIRTUE, 295 Bank St., Newark, N. J.

"When I receive COMFORT I promptly seat myself in my study chair and turn to the Chats. I read for about five minutes, then I come across a letter from some concealed cousin—like myself. All my antagonistic proclivities rise up like the quills on a porcupine's back. I seize paper and pen and dash off a criticism. I read it over. Not as good as I expected. I read it again. Still worse. I take down 'Pope's Essay on Criticism' and read for five minutes, then I deliberately get up and stuff my criticism in the stove. If all the cousins would follow my example in this it would save Auntie a vast amount of work. I wish to make an apology to one of the cousins to-day. Wisconsin Wild Bill, your first letter gave me the impression that you were a thorough crank, and I thus expressed myself in November COMFORT. Your second, however, removed half the bad impression created by your first, therefore I now regard you as only one-half crank, the other half of your nature being pre-eminently sensible. Perhaps the following may be of interest to a Subscriber. The two most noted works of Darwin are the 'Origin of Species' and the 'Descent of Man.' Among those of Hugh Miller may be mentioned, 'Old Red Sandstone,' 'Footprints of the Creator,' 'Cruise of the Betsay,' and 'Testimony of the Rocks.' The works of Agassiz and Cuvier may be read with profit in connection with the above. Among the best books on American travel Thayer's 'New West' deserves first mention. Benj. F. Taylor's 'Between the Gates' is charming. H. N. Bishop's 'A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk

A Thousand Miles Walk



Copyright, 1922, by the publishers of Comfort.

LAST SUNDAY there occurred in one of our best families a real and scene of domestic unpleasantness. The thing swept across a brand-new honeymoon like a young cyclone, and opened the eyes of love's young dream to the fact that fate has planted some great big stumbling-blocks all over this sinful world. It all happened at the home of a young married couple, and, as usual, there was a woman in it, and it was all the man's fault. It seems that the groom, who hails from Jayville, belongs to one of those swell families who always fry theirs in lard, and who are forever telling other people how their goose ought to be cooked. The bride is an auburn-haired Green Mountain belle, whose ancestors fit and bled for the Constitution and the flag. At home she was looked upon by every one as a cook from way back; and there's no flaw in her family pride, or flies on her pastry.

Now, every man has some fatal weakness; but this particular man's weakness was pie. They hadn't been married twenty-four hours before this fact dawned upon the fair bride; and during the first week of the honeymoon she was told just one hundred and seventeen times that his mother could bake the best pies in seven States, and was generally considered the best all-around cook east of the Rocky Mountains. A game of conversation like this would have made some young wives feel real bad, but the little lady from Montpelier has too big a bump of intelligence to get miffed at a little thing like that. She learned a thing or two about men while she was at college, and she knows that the real seat of man's happiness is in his stomach. So she secretly sent to his mother for her prize pie formula, with all details, particulars, plans, and specifications appertaining thereto; then she set about to work out her own and her husband's salvation with womanly kindness and home-made pie. The result of her first effort fairly made the eyes of the pie fiend bulge out with delight; and he not only called her a daisy right before the hired girl, but insisted that she was his own toasty wootsy daisy at that. Her hopes quickly slid down hill, however, when he remarked, after a second helping, that while the pie was unquestionably good, it wasn't quite up to the article his mother used to feed him. The little lady swallowed her disappointment with a pang, and tried again, but the result was practically the same. It was the fourth time this time that called forth the cold-blooded statement that there was a certain soggy substance between the foundation and superstructure which seemed to harden the gums and promote internal misery, and which he had never found in his mother's pies. He added, incidentally, that his mother's family had been noted for generations for their pies, and that people for miles and miles around their old home had tried their doggonedest to equal

LAST WEEK he arrived at the gates of our city, and asked us to loan him the sum of ten cents until the cows come home.



A good many of our readers have seen him, for he is known from Kennebunk to Kalamazoo, and here is his picture. He isn't handsome, his clothes don't fit him, and he don't belong to the 400; but he can ask for something to eat in fourteen different languages. And still he isn't happy. If he had another suspender, and could earn his living in one language, there would be more sunshine in his life. He suffers a good deal from what great heads call "that tired feeling," and judging from his thirst he was born on an awfully dry day. He is never in a hurry until the farmer's wife sends "Old Watch" to interview him, and then he runs like a Democratic candidate in Texas. There are only two things he can't digest—raw dog and work.

To Mr. HORATIO STOUT, Neverink, Nova Scotia.—The Anti-Gout Chicken Soup was invented by a Cincinnati hotel man in the spring of the year 1887. The plan is simple, and there ought to be money in it. Briefly summed up, it is this:—

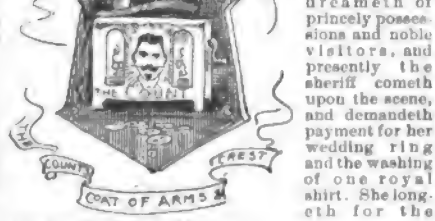
A live chicken is mounted on stilts, as shown in the illustration here given, and made to wade through a pot of water seasoned with onions and a little salt and pepper. For chronic gout, the stilts must be longer, and the chicken should be driven as lively as possible, otherwise the soup will be too rich for the blood.

For the accommodation of boarding-house and seaside resort keepers, the soup is put up in air-tight cans, which are warranted to keep in any climate, and to be proof against the corroding tooth of time. The public is cautioned against worthless imitations. Purchasers should insist upon receiving the genuine Anti-Gout brand with stilted rooster in the soup. Fifty cents, forty cents. To be had at all soup gymnasia.



AMERICAN WOMAN that marrieth foreign nobility is of many days, and full of trouble. She goeth forth in the springtime of life cooing like a dove, and slingeth herself away upon some imported muckle-head who calleth himself a count; and presently she returneth to the parental roof-top as meek as a moist mother hen, and unfoldeth a powerfully and tale. She entereth upon her honeymoon most gloriously well heeled, and lo! she cometh back on an exceedingly cold day, and monkeyeth her daily bread out of the keys of a typewriter.

She journeyeth hence as an American duddess, housed in a private car and royal stateroom, and she travelleth homeward as an Italian countess, packed in an emigrant steerage and chilly caboose. She departeth from the land of her fathers wearing rich gowns and jewels that verily are a caution to behold, and when she re-appeareth she is clad in the chilly garment of the night, and resembleth a symphony in rage. She loatheth her purse to the noble count on the glad bridal morning, and at eventide he appeareth at a pink tea, laden with rum, ruffianism, and rebellion. She dreameth of princely possessions and noble visitors, and presently the sheriff cometh upon the scene, and demandeth payment for her wedding ring and the washing of one royal shirt. She loatheth for the



sweet music of the giddy waltz, and heareth in place thereof many cuss words of exceedingly great force. And when she looketh for high art in a low-neck dress, she seeth, instead, the count knocked out by her adult brother in home-spun and great shape. In the near subsequently she seeketh the sunny skies of Italy, and learneth, alas! that she is no countess whatsoever, but merely the fifth wife of a bankrupt organ-grinder banished from Rome.

Verily, it doth appear that royal muckle-head who marrieth American heiress is small potatoes and few in a hill. It appeareth likewise that American heiress who throweth herself away upon imported muckle-head securith a through ticket on the well-anointed toboggan that glideth adown the slippery slope of misery hill.

THE Philadelphia maiden who is so modest that she will not go to bed while the "Christian Observer" is on her table, has been outdone by the bashful Boston belle who declines to walk up a steep hill because it makes her breath come in short pants.

A SKOWHEGAN man is going to patent an ingenious device, which promises to revolutionize the pie business. He calls it the "Indestructible, Food Economizing, Health Promoting Pie Crust," and a syndicate of New York capitalists are already negotiating for its purchase. Ground will be broken early next month, and the enterprise is to be known as the North American Pie Trust.

The invention consists of a process by which life-like imitations of pie crust are manufactured from a secret combination of vulcanized rubber and oleomargarine. These patented pie skeletons are composed of sectional parts—halves, quarters, sixths, or eighths, as desired—which are cleverly joined by means of invisible

self-acting clamps. They may be used for any kind of pie, cannot possibly be eaten, and are guaranteed to last seven years. Samples which have been in constant use for six months in a railway eating station in Connecticut, show no signs of wear or tear, and a New Haven man, who claims to know what he is talking about, says they cannot be distinguished from the orthodox dyspepsia developers by the naked eye, and that the days of the simon-pure pie, such as we hankered after when the country was young, are numbered. The new pie foundry will undertake to furnish "Patent Outsides" in any size, shape, or color, from the pale, round seaside or sample variety, to the beautiful nut-brown pumpkin, all homemade, and guaranteed a yard wide.



A CORRESPONDENT who signs himself Ben Barker wants us to tell him how to treat a dog afflicted with hydrophobia.

This is a pretty difficult question to answer. In the first place, all the people in this section of the country who ever undertook to treat that kind of dogs have left for parts unknown, and leading medical authorities differ widely as to what constitutes the best thing to give to one thusly afflicted.

All seem to agree, however, that the first thing to give him is plenty of rope, and all the elbow room he wants. According to our own opinion, which is based upon that admirable work, "Every Man his own Dog Doctor," the following is by far the best treatment to adopt:

R Cold Lead, ¼ oz.

DIRECTIONS.—Make into one pill, and apply to the dog's head with a Smith & Wesson revolver.

ONE of our fellow-citizens by the weird, wild name of McGinty was arrested last Saturday for robbing a gentleman of his watch; and although the evidence was dead against him, he insisted that he was innocent. When the judge pressed him to explain how it happened that the watch was found in his possession, he said it was given to him, but finally admitted that he had to knock the giver down four times before he handed it over.

Copyright, 1922, by the publishers of Comfort.

Don't become constipated. Take BEECHAM'S PILLS.

STAMMERING
CURED BY MAIL
Address J. M. JONES, P.O. Box 1602, N. Y.

AGENTS!

This is the Carpet Stretcher that is having such a tremendous sale. Its tails for \$1. Price to agents \$1.50. Outfit prepaid \$5.00, or 10c. by express. Circulars free. If you wish an A. No. 1 first-class selling article, address F. H. Rundell & Co., Mfrs., Moravia, N. Y., or Lemont, Ill.

ENGLISH WHEELS AT ENGLISH PRICES.

CELEBRATED

"CIRDER" CYCLES.

EVERY MACHINE FULLY WARRANTED FOR TWELVE MONTHS.

Wheels Sent C.O.D.

Send for list; Mail Free.

QUEST & BARROW,

735 & 736, BEECH BUILDINGS,

PHILADELPHIA.

Factory, Birmingham, England.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

Model P.

BICYCLES GIVEN AWAY
FREE TO BOYS & GIRLS UNDER 15.
If any Boy or Girl wants an elegant High Grade Safety Bicycle (24 inch wheels) free on easy conditions, write at once to WESTERN PEAK CO., Chicago, Ill.

Coffee, Spices & Extracts
direct from Importers to Consumers. For 16 years we have been offering Premiums to Clubs and large buyers, of Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silver Ware, Table Linen, Lace Curtains, etc., all of our own importation, and bought for Cash direct from manufacturers. Our fully illustrated 136-page Catalogue will interest, and we will be pleased to mail YOU one upon receipt of your address.
LONDON TEA CO., 815, Wash. St., Boston.

\$1.50
"A dollar saved is a dollar earned."
This Ladies' Solid French Dongola Kid Button Boot sent, prepaid, anywhere in the U. S., on receipt of Cash, Money Order, or Postal Note, for \$1.50. Equals every way the boots sold in all retail stores for \$2.50. We make this boot ourselves, therefore we guarantee the fit, style and wear, and if any one is not satisfied we will refund the money or send another pair. Common Sense and Opera Toe, widths C, D, and E, sizes 11-2 to 8, in half sizes. Send your size; we will fit you. We deliver Free.
DEXTER SHOE CO., 143 Federal St., Boston, Mass. (Formerly 299 Devonshire St.)

LOVELY FACES, WHITE HANDS.
Nothing will WHITEN and CLEAR the skin so quickly as **Derma-Royale**

The new discovery for dissolving and removing discolorations from the cuticle, and bleaching and brightening the complexion. In experimenting in the laundry with a new bleach for fine fabrics it was discovered that all spots, freckles, tan, and other discolorations were quickly removed from the hands and arms without the slightest injury to the skin. The discovery was submitted to experienced Dermatologists and Physicians who prepared for us the formula of the marvelous Derma-Royale. THERE NEVER WAS ANYTHING LIKE IT. It is perfectly harmless and so simple a child can use it. Apply at night—the improvement apparent after single application will surprise and delight you. It quickly dissolves and removes the worst forms of moth-patches, brown or liver spots, freckles, blackheads, blotches, sallowness, redness, tan and every discoloration of the cuticle. One bottle completely removes and cures the most aggravated case and thoroughly clears, whitens and beautifies the complexion. It has never failed—it CANNOT FAIL. It is highly recommended by Physicians and its sure results warrant us in offering

\$500 REWARD.—To assure the public of its merits we agree to forfeit Five Hundred Dollars cash, for any case of moth-patches, brown spots, liver spots, blackheads, ugly or muddy skin, unnatural redness, freckles, tan or any other cutaneous discolorations (excepting birthmarks, scars, and those of a scrofulous or kindred nature) that Derma-Royale will not quickly remove and cure. We also agree to forfeit Five Hundred Dollars to any person whose skin can be injured in the slightest possible manner, or to anyone whose complexion (no matter in how bad condition it may be), will not be cleared, whitened, improved and beautified by the use of Derma-Royale.

Put up in elegant style in large eight-ounce bottles. Price, \$1.00. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.

Derma-Royale sent to any address, safely packed and securely sealed from observation, safe delivery guaranteed, on receipt of price, \$1.00 per bottle. Send money by registered letter or money order with your full post-office address written plainly; be sure to give your County, and mention this paper. Correspondence sacredly private. Postage stamps received the same as cash.

AGENTS WANTED Send for Terms and Agents on Sight \$10 A DAY.

Address THE DERMA-ROYALE COMPANY,

Corner Baker and Vine Streets, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

LATEST AND BEST
THE MARVEL OF THE COLUMBIAN FOR
\$5.00 PER MONTH \$50. AND SAVE \$150.
CORNISH'S WORLD'S FAIR SPECIAL OFFER

IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE our latest invented Parlor Organ into new localities, we have decided to offer the first 5,000 manufactured for sale on the above terms. This is by far the best offer ever made by us or any other reputable firm of manufacturers in the world. No other firm in existence would take the enormous risk involved in selling five thousand costly organs on such terms. But after twenty-five years' experience we know that we are sold with the people; and we make this wonderful offer knowing that we can sell every one of the first 5,000 COLUMBIANS almost as soon as this announcement is made public. Bear in mind that the above terms apply to the

THE COLUMBIAN No. 19000
FINEST CABINET PARLOR ORGAN MADE All latest and improvements. Solid Walnut Case of unique design. The magnificent top is constructed and designed to represent one of the great screens in the Lady Chapel at Genoa—the birthplace of Columbus. Mouse-proof Action. New Stop work. 5 Octaves, 14 Stops, 2 Octave Couplers, 2 Knee Swells, and 5 perfect sets of Orchestral Toned Reeds. Warranted for TEN YEARS. Handsome Stool and Instruction Book free. Organ sent on approval. Safe delivery absolutely guaranteed. Boxed and delivered free on board cars here. No risk to purchaser.

\$10 PER MONTH AND SAVE \$150.
EASY A-B-C THE FINEST PIANOS
MANUFACTURED IN THE WORLD FROM \$175.

Sold on Easy Payment Plans to suit all pockets, direct from factory at wholesale prices. Don't pay an Agent or Dealer \$100 or \$200. Put it in your pocket. If you will write for our catalogue, we can prove our statements and give you facts that will astonish you. Visit our immense factories and make your own selection. All purchaser's expenses paid. Note what you have to do and DO AT ONCE. Delays are dangerous. Send for our Catalogues. Mention this Paper and You get them free. Reference, First National Bank this City. Address the Manufacturers at once. Time is short. The rush is great.

CORNISH & CO., Washington, New Jersey.
Established 25 years.



MY DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

Glad I am to greet you once again at Comfort's Realm, and to find such a large and brilliant company gathered, anxious to find out what Oldcastle has in store for them this month—what he has brought with him in that quaint old carpet-bag, from his ancient home in "Mystic Land," to amuse and instruct them. And some new recruits coming to the front—I do declare! Shake hands and become acquainted with the rest of "Our Mystic Band." We are glad to welcome you and hope you will become permanent contributors and solvers to "The Mystic Castle." If you can compose puzzles, send some for publication; also if you take pleasure in solving them, send your list of solutions to the "Mysteries," each month, and try to win one of the useful prizes. Address, Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., and give right name and address as well as *nom de plume* every time you write.

Now for the contents of the mysterious carpet-bag. First, is the large excellent batch of "Intricate Knots from Puzzledom," which I know will be interesting to us all and will require some quiet, calm deliberation to disentangle. Try your best to get a complete list, but send whatever you get, be it a single solution. The prize for a double six-letter square, i.e. reading differently down and across, offered by Remardo, is awarded to Ed Ward, Brooklyn, N. Y., whose production appears in this issue.

"Payne's Business Pointers" offered by Doc for the best batch of "flats," is awarded to F. I. Dont, Rockport, Me., who sent an excellent batch of "coons" in competition.

Puzzles from the following have been received since my last journey:—S. Payne, 9; F. I. Dont, Augusta Blake, 6; J. O. M., 5; Merline, Ray, 4; Guardineer, Aspiro, 2; Ed Ward, Waldemar, R. V. and Ypsie 1 each. Solvers to February "Mystic Castle" are as follows: Doc, 7; Eglantine, Spine, McGregor, Hercules, W. E. Wink, 7; Ed Ward, G. E. Bechtel, Waldemar, Frozen Rain, Ypsie, Aspiro, Tyro, Frank, A. E. B., H. A. Watha, Buck I. Solver, 6; Andox, Beb, Sunshine, J. C. M., Arty Fishel, Jo Ker, Roy, Nettie Simon, Josie and Daisy Bourjal, 5; Ben Net, R. Ebus, Remardo, Chance, 4; Columbia, Thinker, Noah Count, Percy Vere, Roland, 3; Odell Cyclone, Augusta Blake, 2; R. O. Chester, Lucile, Maj, 1.

Prize-winners:—1. Doc, 2. Eglantine, 3. Jo. Ker, 4. Roland.

Ray sent a list of solutions to Jan. "Mystic Castle" too late to be acknowledged in our last issue.

Oldcastle has much he would like to say to his Mystic Friends, but in order not to crowd any of the "Mysteries" out of this number, he must make an end to his chat and wait until his next journey to the Realm of Comfort, so bidding you good-bye for this time, I remain,

Your dear old Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE.

SOLUTIONS TO FEBRUARY'S MYSTERIES.

No. 281. Thomas Babington Macaulay. No. 284. Dossier. No. 285. Religion. No. 286. L-arum. No. 287. Grate-rate-ate-eat-at.

No. 289. PROSE IN ANER REMOVE ANNULAR SOLENO ANNULATED EVENER DELARAME RETORT RATAPIA REMIND DEADDS

No. 293. R CUPS MINES CIRCLED RUNOATION PELTING SINE DOG N MYSTERIES.

No. 303. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A fowl. 3. Ulcers. 4. An oppressive relaxing wind from the Libyan deserts. 5. A silicious stone, a variety of quartz. 6. The science of weighing air. 7. Resembling nectar. 8. The black diver or duck, a marine fowl of the genus Oldemia of Fleming, (plur.) 9. Son of Simon II, high priest of the Jews, (A. M. 3805.) 10. Age, duration. 11. A letter.

At, Ohio, CLEON.

No. 304. Prize Double Square.

(To Remardo.)

Across. 1. The three-banded armadillos. 2. A postoffice of Harrison Co., Ind. (P. O. Guide.) 3. A ruler of Russia. 4. An idiot. 5. Eternal. (Poet.) 6. Laid a tax upon (obs.)

Down. 1. A class of strongly basic substances derived from ammonia. 2. Characterized by refinement. 3. Old sayings. 4. Those who speak wildly. 5. An epithet of God, (Century Dictionary.) 6. Set firm.

Brooklyn, N. Y., ED WARD.

No. 305. Letter Enigma.

Please catch a bird, ye witty ones,
From the forest here below;
A prize awaits the lucky one
Who first its name will show.

In the "willow" by the brook,
In the "birch" and "cedar" look;
In the "mountain-ash" and "teak,"
In the "poplar" tulip tree,
In the "elm" and "maple," see;
In the "juniper" and the "pine,"
For food its flesh is very fine.

Rockport, Me., F. I. DONT.
The author offers a suitable prize for the first correct solution.

No. 306. Charade.

When gazing on the wide dreary first, I said,
"Nature will soon second you with bloom and life,"
On ripened third great honor should be laid,
And my whole does service in times of strife.

No. 307. Half Square.

1. A tree whose bark has an aromatic smell and taste. 2. One of the numerous small planets, whose orbits are situated between those of Mars and Jupiter. 3. Studded with stars. 4. Caravansaries. 5. The edge formed by two surfaces meeting each other. 6. Ill-wishers. 7. To clear. 8. A Latin preposition. 9. In "Oldcastle."

Colebrook, Wis., S. PAYNE.

No. 308. Crossword.
In freedom not in slave,
In martyr not in knave;
In castle not in hall.

In winter not in fall;
In Iceland not in Wales,
In claymore not in mails;
In beauty not in plain;
In hailstone also in rain;
In landscape not in sea,
In bound not in free.
These hidden letters, ten, you see,
Compose a brilliant company.
Richmond, Va.,

JOAN OF ARC.

No. 309. Charade.

My first is in this,
My last is in Bliss,
And my second in what you can see;
My whole, at a glance,
Is a genus of plants,
And it yields a blue dye, very free.

J. C. M.

No. 310. Enigma.

You'll find me long,
You'll find me short;
Of colors I have five.
In dressing me for parties,
Not much pleasure you'll derive.
I'm always fixed up nicely
In fashions of the day.
My colors are respectively,
Black, brown, yellow, red and gray.

KATIE GALLAGHER.

No. 311. Enigma.

All over the world by beauties I'm sought,
A leader of fashion holds to me fast,
Even old hags have by watchers been caught,
In the use of me as they thought of the past.
It's true that some kings in the long years ago,
All my importance in life could not see,
But to-day in all courts none fail to know
How the ladies all smile on greeting me.
Of various sizes—can you not guess?
(Sometimes I am worth, though small, not the less,
Though the larger, the more are sweet glances cast.)
What I am, when on your mind I impress
That without me, in style no one can dress—
And that in these lines I'm found, save the last.

SCOTT.

No. 312. Enigma.

The first comes early in the morn,
The second sounding in a horn;
Third is yourself, as others call you,
Fourth of your name, it may befall you,
Fifth, what before you stands for supper,
Sixth is midway from bit to crupper.
Seventh, the beginning of the end,
Eighth is required the same to mend.
Ninth, an ingredient of bread,
The same without it may be read.
Tenth, take one-half and be assured,
Three letters more will end the word.
A live volcano thus expressed,
Is found in Asia, in the west.

DELIAN.

No. 313. A Biblical Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A Hebrew measure of capacity. 3. The place in which Job the judge was buried. 4. An Egyptian city spoken of in Genesis. 5. A city in the land of Gilead. 6. The grandfather of King Saul. 7. A letter.

ARTHUR.

No. 314. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A wager. 3. Chastised. 4. Collects to a point. 5. Small banners. 6. A person a hundred years old. 7. Forming a raised level space of earth. 8. A township in Cumberland Co., Me. 9. To bite. 10. To yield. 11. A letter.

REMARDO.

No. 315. Charade.

I love my well-earned first to take,
Whenever I am second;
(I always was a lazy dog,
At least, 'tis thus I'm reckoned.)
Yet, what's more whole for weary man,
Dull, cross, almost a wreck and
Tired out, than first to scan,
As often as he's second?

DOC.

No. 316. Charade.

I'd puzzled long—my best had done—
When lo! at last a Prize I won—
A whole of Poems, ONE, TWO sent,
With which, I own, I'm quite content.
Go, Poser, old or late recruit,
Compose some cons you think will suit,
And when the autumn yields its fruit,
A whole PRIZE you may chance to come
From some kind Ed. In Puzzledom—
A gilt-edged ALL—for you, a snarler
At Puzzle Eds. (You think they sh ht you,
While doing their prettiest to delight you,
And offering Prizes to incite you,
And, often, to encourage, write you,
And to their weddings may invite you,
The which they have a perfect right to,
On second card,) to grace your parlor.

ASPIRO.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the first three complete or largest list of solutions to this month's "Mysteries," the following prizes will be awarded:
1. U. S. Weather Signal.
2. Marmoth Stampin' Outfit.
3. Carle's Treasure Cabinet.
Specials:—Two six-months' subscriptions to COMFORT awarded by lot among the rest of the solvers.
Competition closes July 1, 1892.
Solutions, solvers and prize-winners in August "Mystic Castle."

Free Photos.

We have some elegant Photos of prominent places which we are going to give away to introduce our new Giant Catalogue of Novelties, will send an assorted collection to any one who will enclose a 2c. stamp for postage on same.

MOR-E & CO., Augusta, Maine.

3,000 JOB LOT BICYCLES
20 to 50% OFF.
And lowest prices on all '92 makes & 2d hd. Easy payments. We sell everywhere.
'91 Union '92 June, balls \$65 40 in. \$75 Victor Jr. balls \$75
'90 Crescent '91 '92 \$80 '91 \$135 Rambler \$90
'91 \$145 Union High Grade \$90 And 30 other styles as cheap.
Largest stock and oldest dealers in U. S. Agts. wanted.
Cata. free. Rouse, Hazard & Co., 161 G. St., Peoria, Ill.

GEN. AGENT WANTED

in each County to appoint Sub-Agents and sell our 15 useful household articles. Exclusive territory. Our Agents make \$100 to \$200 a month. Lady Agents are very successful. Farmers and their wives make \$200 to \$400 during winter. Are you out of work? In debt? Or in need of money? Then here is your chance. First-class, good selling articles and big profits. Send us your address on a postal card for catalogue and wholesale price list. Address LAKE ERIE MFG. CO., 245 E. 15th St., ERIE, PA.

IMPERIAL POCKET PEN & PENCIL 10c
CLUB OF 14 postpaid for \$1 Bill.
Marks, Lines, Cards, Papers, Everything
New Agents make BIG Money. Terms Free.
THALMAN MFG. CO., No. 175 Bait. St., Baltimore, Md.

MY WIFE SAYS SHE CANNOT SEE HOW YOU DO IT FOR THE MONEY.
\$12 Buys a \$65.00 Improved Oxford Singer Sewing Machine; perfect working, reliable, finely finished, adapted to light and heavy work, with a complete set of the latest improved attachments FREE. Each machine is guaranteed for 5 years. Buy direct from factory, and save dealers and agents profit. Send for FREE CATALOGUE.
OXFORD MFG. CO., Dept. 79, CHICAGO, ILL.

Agents Wanted on Salary

or commission, to handle the new Patent Chemical Ink Erasing Pencil. The quickest and great at selling novelty ever produced. Erases ink thoroughly in two seconds. No abrasion of paper. Works like magic. 200 to 500 per cent. profit. One Agent's sales amounted to \$620 in six days. Another \$32 in two hours. Previous experience not necessary. For terms and full particulars, address, The Monroe Eraser Mfg Co., La Crosse, Wis. X 87.

\$1.00 SAMPLE OUTFIT FREE.

We sell STOKING SUPPORTERS from 50 cts. per doz. up. SANITARY BATHS \$1.00. ELASTIC ISOLATES and Hair Cutters, \$1.50 per doz. 200 per cent profit. Send 10 cents, stamps, for Sample and Terms. S. S. CO., 378 Canal St., New York.

SQUARES
VELVET and FLUSH to set off and perfect your gray patchwork quilts. Birds, flowers, sprays, etc. Five hours' work. Dipped in colors. All for 25 cts. ART STORE, Box 298 Augusta, Me.

PRINTING OUTFIT 15c
COMPLETE. 4-a-phases rubber type, type holder, bottle, ink, ink pad and Treaders. Put up in neat box with directions for use. Satisfaction guaranteed. Worth 50c. Best Letter Marker, Card Printer, etc. Send name in 1 minute, write 50c credit to your credit. Postpaid 15c. For 50c. Oct. 1st. R. H. INGERSOLL & BRO. 65 Cortlandt St., N. Y. City.

Cancers.
Thousands of Cancers are permanently removed by entirely new and original methods without pain, loss of blood, or the use of plaster or knife. For free book on Cancer address Surgical Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

LYON & HEALY,
62 Monroe Street, Chicago.
Will Mail Free their newly enlarged Catalogue of Band Instruments, Uniforms and Equipments, 400 Fine Illustrations, describing every article required by Bands or Drum Corps. Contains Instructions for Amateur Bands, Exercises and Drum Major's Tactics, By Laws and a Selected List of Band Music.

RUPTURE CURED.

WITH our Improved Elastic Truss. Worn with ease night and day. Retains the rupture under the hardest exercise or severe strain. Send for pamphlet.
IMPROVED ELASTIC TRUSS CO.,
822 & 824 Broadway, Cor. 12th St., New York.

EMPLOYMENT. LADIES AND MEN
wanted to sell the "NEW MODEL HALL TYPEWRITER." Sample easily carried in the hand. Work easy, pleasant and lucrative. Salary or commission. Machine unexcelled. Price lower than any standard writer. Address, N. TYPEWRITER CO., BOSTON, MASS.

PIMPLES
BLACK HEADS
FLESH
WORMS
"MEDICATED CREAM" is the ONLY KNOWN, harmless, pleasant and absolutely SURE and infallible cure. It positively and effectively removes ALL, clean and completely in a FEW DAYS ONLY, leaving the skin clear and unblemished always, and clearing it of all mudiness and coarseness. It is a true remedy to cure and prevent pimples, black heads, flesh worms, etc. It is sold in a plain, sealed wrapper for 30c., or 5 for 50c. by George N. Stoddard, Druggist, 1226 Niagara St., Buffalo, N. Y.

A PRESENT.

SEND us your address and we will make you a present of the best Automatic WASHING MACHINE in the world. No wash-board or rubbing needed. We want you to show it to your friends, or act as agent if you can. You can COIN MONEY. We also give a HANDSOME CASH PRIZE to the first from each county who writes the correct address. N. Y. LAUNDRY WORKS, 80 Murray Street, N. Y. C.

McGINTY'S BABY.
Is he Alive? Of course. It laughs, sings, and its cries are of a piercing character to nearly drive the old folks crazy. This lively Young One has strongest lungs on record, a jolly face and fat body. By slipping it under your coat on entering a room full of people, can create the biggest sort of a sensation. The baby will yell for all its worth, amid the confusion and blushes of the ladies. McGinty's baby is very strong and very saucy. Just out. Sure to suit. Fun for everybody. A whole Circus for 12 Cents, 3 for 30 cents. Stamps taken. Address BOSTON NOVELTY CO., BOX 1540, BOSTON, MASS.

\$1 DOLLAR WATCH.

CAN YOU RELIEVE IT?
We have been for years asking ourselves "Can not a good watch be made for a Dollar?" We have also been WORKING on this problem, and have spent large sums in experimenting. With the aid of the largest watch manufacturing concern in this country, we have finally produced a PERFECT WATCH, complete in this clock case which we now offer at ONE DOLLAR! Cut exactly represents 12-3-3 size. It is made entirely in this country. The movement is American lever, Lantern pinion, 240 beats a minute, well adjusted, regulated and tested. Rust second hand and patent winding attachment requiring no key. Warranted to keep good time one year, and with proper usage it will last for ten years. Cash strong and honest money refunded. We refer you to any large publisher or the mercantile reports. Price \$1.00. DELIVERED with handsome CHAIN to any part of the U. S. for 25c. extra. Delivery and satisfaction guaranteed.
R. H. INGERSOLL & BRO. 65 Cortlandt St. N. Y.

\$1200 REWARD

IF YOU READ THIS REBUS!

AN O
The above Rebus represents something that every woman and girl would like to have in her parlor. WHAT IS IT? We will give a handsome \$1200 Octave Upright Piano to the first person sending a correct solution to the above Rebus before June 30th, 1892. To each of the next ten a Solid Gold Watch, not plated but SOLID GOLD, with genuine American movement. To each of the next five, a \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next ten, a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 14 to 18 yards. You can choose between Black, Gray, Blue, Green, Brown or Wine Color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty, we will send 30 cents, money or stamps, and we will mail you our 16-page 64-column paper "AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD GUEST," regularly for six months. The July issues of all our publications will contain the result of this offer, and the name and full address of every prize winner will be printed. This offer is made solely to advertise our publications and introduce them into new homes. We are well able and shall promptly give all the prizes offered here—square dealing in our motto. Postage stamps taken. Give your full name and P. O. address. Our address is: AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD GUEST, Owings Building, Chicago, Ill.

AMERICAN COTTAGE HOME,
Opp. P. O., Jersey City, N. J.

500 CARDS OF MAIL, FREE! Address,

THE MAIL, Box, 1680, Philadelphia, Pa.

FAT FOLKS

You can reduce your weight from 10 to 15 pounds a month without injury, without starving, without anyone being the wiser, at home, at small cost, by the use of Old Dr. Clarke's Home Treatment. Perfected in over 40 years special practice. Send for proofs and testimonials. F. B. CLARKE, M. D., Drawer 133, Chicago, Ill. Established 1861.

CATARRH CURED

A Clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Goryana Remedy Co., 2006 Ninth Avenue, New York, will receive the recipe free of charge. (Mention this paper.)

EAR.

DR. EVANS' PHOSPHOR OXIDIZED AIR cures Deafness, Catarrh, Buzzing Noises, Foul Breath, Asthma and consumption. New method sent with apparatus to all parts. Explanatory pamphlet mailed free. DAVID EVANS, M. D., 226 Tremont Street, Boston.

"A great remedy—without doubt the greatest discovery of the age."—Boston Herald.

I CURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office. H. G. ROOT, M. C., 183 Pearl St., N. Y.

New Bull's-Eye Dark Lantern.

Used by Night Watchmen, Hunters and Farmers, as it throws a powerful light far into the darkness. Can be carried in the hand or adjusted to belt for skating or hunting. The top revolves so that three colors can be shown; white, red, and green. Just the thing for Farmers. Sent by mail, post-paid, 55 cents. Send for Free Catalogue of Novelties and Fine Goods at low prices. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.

Beginning First Week Second Week
Dear Sir: We know that the only preparation in all the world that will effect the magical results herein shown, AND NEW FAIL, is AMRITA, or Juice of the India Soma Plant. We will be glad to send a trial case of Amrita free of expense to any man who desires to test its marvelous qualities. Address The Webber Institute, Columbus, Ohio. Third Week.

A PRIZE REBUS!
10 EC

The above Rebus is the name of one of the States in this glorious Union. To the first person who sends the correct answer before June 30th, 1892, we will give \$150.00 IN CASH. To the second, 75 Dollars in Cash. To the third, 25 Dollars Cash. To each of the next ten, a SOLID GOLD WATCH (not plated but Solid Gold), with genuine American movement. To each of the next five, a \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next ten, a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 14 to 18 yards. You can choose between Black, Gray, Blue, Green, Brown or Wine Color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty-five we will give to each one a Handsome Genuine Solid Nickel Silver Cased Watch, stem wind and set, with genuine American movement. We send these premiums the same day your guess is received, all express charges prepaid, to the limit of this offer. With your answer to this Rebus, we require you to send thirty cents, and we will mail you our 16-page 64-column paper, "AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD GUEST," regularly for six months. The July issues of all our publications will contain the result of this offer, and the name and full address of every prize winner will be printed. This offer is made solely to advertise our publications and introduce them into new homes. We are well able and shall promptly give all the prizes offered here—square dealing in our motto. Postage stamps taken. Give your full name and P. O. address. Our address is: AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD GUEST, Owings Building, Chicago, Ill.

99 PATTERNS AND MANUAL FREE

OF INSTRUCTIONS LATEST STAMPING OUTFIT
KENSINGTON STAMPING was never more popular than to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make 15c. every 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the snug little sum of \$5 and over comes in, as the prices range from 5c. to \$1 for each pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately modernized machinery for turning out these patterns by the hundred yards as fast as you can reel off a ball of yarn, and their cost is barely nothing to what it was last year. We send the patterns on strips about two feet long and seven inches wide. Nearly as good as many 5c. and \$1 ones now being sold. We buy so many of this one kind that we can lead every dealer on price. Our beautiful combined outfit consisting of nearly 100 of the largest variety of patterns, each from a foot long down to single alphabet letters. We cannot describe them, not having room to go into detail, but in order to introduce our magazine, "COMFORT," with its greatly improved department, we send the above outfit, Free, postpaid, to all three months' (12c.) subscribers, and also send a new book or Manual of Instruction in the art of stamping. Just printed. It describes how to make all colors of powder, and instructs you in every manner of working the patterns. If you enclose 12c. to us, we make you a present of above.

B. AND WORK.

MORSE & CO., Box 11 Augusta, Maine.



THE road just now is about as dreary and uninteresting as one could well imagine. The long low stretch of prairie is unbroken save by a small hill here and there guarded by a sentinel coyote. At the first approach of danger the peculiar dog-like yell of this singular denizen of the plain is heard and a wild scamper is made for shelter. In the far away distance a long low range of inky blackness denotes the entrance to the canon, and the worn out passengers welcome even this unpleasant change from the monotony of the journey. Coolness and shade at least awaits them, and though danger may lurk behind the jutting boulders, that is only a possibility and not a probability. I am sitting on the box next the driver, a huge burly fellow whose claim to beauty if he ever had any, long ago succumbed to some facial decorations acquired during sundry experiences incident to his career as hotel keeper, sheriff and stage driver. An angry red scar which extended almost from ear to ear was the result of an "argument" he confidently informed me, during which his antagonist "Climbed the golden stairs" to quote from his own classic language, and the third finger which was missing from his left hand was also the result of an "argument." It had been shot off. "But you ought to see the other feller," was his laconic answer to my look of surprise. Added to all this was an angular cut over the left cheek bone which certainly gave an appearance not at all lovely to look upon.

"Would you mind telling me about it?" I finally ventured.

"Well 'twas this way. You see me an' Red Jim wot was working for the L. S. & D. Co., them days had a sort of celebrashin back here at Billy the Kid's just fore we started out. I allus told Jim he was the cheapest man to get drunk I ever seed and we hadn't got outside three beers 'fore Jim had jest the elegantest friskee I ever seed on a man. That made me weary. I couldn't see no use in startin' out with a bumper half-shot, so I says to myself we'll move along all by our loney.

"There wuz some ugly goin's on up in the passes just about them times and Jim was a dead shot. I hated to start out widout him, but there was some hard stuff for a mining camp out here and I knew we had the men's pay-dirt so I didn't have the heart to disappoint 'em.

"There was a load of passengers besides. A couple of doods and a school marm from Boston among 'em. I t'ought she owned the ear. Bi'me by we came to the cut. I was trying to sing sumpin' like what I heard down East about Tom not wanting to leave his mother. Ever hear it?"

"No," I hastened to reply fearing he might give me a sample verse.

"Well you'd oughter hear me when I'm feelin' good. I'm a leetle bit husky to-night. Me throat's dry. You haven't got a flask wid you stranger, hev you?"

"I had.

"Thanks," said he as the last drop disappeared down the fearful orifice he called a mouth.

"Powerful good stuff that. Tastes like sand paper all the way down." Never having tasted the luxury sand paper, I was in doubt whether the observation was complimentary or not. But from the satisfactory look on his face I concluded that he liked the effect of sand paper on his wind galls and nodded my appreciation.

"As I was saying," he resumed, "I had just got to the cut when I saw the leaders rise up in the air and I knew we was caught."

"Trow up yer hands!" "Now when you've been on the road as long as I have you won't ax any questions when a gent asks you to do a little thing like that."

"Come out here all of yez," says the gent. "We all came out."

"That's a pretty nice gun ye've got," says I to the fellow who was pointin' a bull dog at me.

"Shut up," says he. "Shut up it is," says I. "All the time I was wonderin' how I could save the dust of the poor boys up at the mine."

"You want to hurry up," says I, 'cos there's a detachment of reg'lars coming right behind. They ought to be here now."

"If thet galoot opens his mouth agin, plug him," says the leader.

"What's that yer sayin'," said I, trying to get him kinder mad, 'your mighty fresh aint you?"

"A ball from his pistol was the only answer I got and it raised me hair as it passed through me hat."

"The young feller in front of me turned his head in the direction of the shot and in a moment I had knocked him down and grabbed his pistol."

"I sprang behind the rocks and a dozen balls fell about me in a shower as I reached cover. Consternation seized the robbers. I was concealed meself while the whole band was at me mercy. Bang went the pistol and the leader staggered and fell. Bang! bang! and two more

bit the dust. I felt a sudden twinge in me side and I knew I had been hit.

"Things was beginnin' to look kinder rocky but I thought I hed them. I knew they couldn't stand there to be shot at and I still had four balls left."

"Oh! please don't shoot any more. Here's my watch and my port mantle," I heard one of the doods say.

"I stuck my hat on the end of a stick and held it out. Six Winchester's blazed away, while at the same time a shot came from inside the stage."

"Gosh," said I, 'that's sure deth."

"It was the Boston school marm an' she was blazin' away for all she was worth."

"Go it old gall," said I, 'we'll fix 'em."

"In a few moments the bandits disappeared. They captured nearly all our spare change and some we couldn't spare but the stuff for the miners was all O. K."

"In a few moments I had the horses quieted down and we went along. It looked like a bad hole at first, but we got out of it in great shape. Have you a pipe, stranger?"

No. I hadn't a pipe, but I had some cigars and in a moment of weakness I pulled forth a box of fine Havannas which article I am never without and having just returned from South America where one can enjoy the luxury of a good cigar at a small expense. I chanced to have them in easy reaching distance. My heart failed me for fear I would not be able to procure more, but when such a searching look reaches one, and after his description of the fight with the road agents, I dared not refuse, for fear a fate equally as bad or worse than that

of the leader of the gang which he had just described, awaited me.

The manner in which those fragrant Havannas disappeared was something I could never quite understand. My private opinion was that he ate more than he smoked. But his enjoyment was worth all the cost. I have seen a man enjoy a cigar, but as a matter of fact, I have never seen a man fairly eat, drink and sleep with every cigar he smoked.

And that was about the case of my friend the driver.

GOOD NEWS for persons suffering from obscure painful chronic diseases. Health Leaflets sent free. D. Wark, P. O. Box 1627, New York.

WATCHES SENT FREE

To be examined before buying. Send for our special price list (showing cuts) to select from. WATCH SUPPLY CO., 322 Dearborn St., Chicago.

SEND 25c. NOW AND YOU CAN GET "COMFORT" FOR A WHOLE YEAR.

FREE Catalogue of Watches. Address, Holly Watch Co., Jersey City, N. J.

do not ADVERTISE. Write for "GENERAL HINTS." Address Lock Box, 40, Van Buren, Mo.

SHEET MUSIC at 1-5 regular price. Catalogue of 12,000 pieces FREE to any address. F. BREIM, Erie, Pa.

YOUR FUTURE REVEALED. Written prediction of your life, 10c. Give date of birth. Astrologer, Box 326, Kansas City, Mo.

FREE Send your name and address on a postal card and we will send you our mammoth watch and jewelry catalogue free. National Mfg. & Imp. Co. 334 Dearborn St. Chicago.

11 THRILLING Detective Stories, 16 Complete love stories and 100 Popular Songs, 10 cents (silver). Ind. Nov. Co., Boylston, Ind.

CATARRH LEADS to Consumption. Write to us CURE the worst cases. Medicine sent free. Address Lincoln Medical Co., Cincinnati, O.

Fish Nets GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES. Seines \$1.25 and up. Send for Catalogue quick and save money. CHAS. B. PROUTY & Co., 63 & 65 Washington St. Chicago.

9 BEST SELLING SPECIALTIES For Agents. Tremendous Sell ers. Everything we make goes for 100.00. Write today for Cat and Agents prices. OHIO ELECTRIC CO., Cleveland

FREE We will send \$500 worth of goods and 100 other useful articles FREE (with which agents can make from \$5 to \$10 a day) to all who send 25 cents for a trial subscription to the new young folks paper published, regular price 50 cents a year. Address YOUNG AMERICA, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue, WASHINGTON, D. C.

FREE TRIAL NERVOUS DISEASES and kindred troubles resulting from ANY CAUSE promptly cured by New Method. Address (with stamp) Acton Med. Co., Washington, D. C.

Death From Sunstroke Is getting to be one of the prevailing calamities in this and other countries. We have lately discovered a sure preventive for this terrible affliction which we will send free postpaid, and all persons whose business or pleasure calls them out in the sunshine will do well to write at once to GIANT OXIE CO., Augusta, Me.

THE LATEST. FUN FOR THE BOYS. A new novelty just out. **AMERICAN CASTANETS** beat the old style castanets all hollow. Made of hard wood with steel spring and doubly weighted striker. Any boy can play them at once without any practice. Boys, if you want lots of fun send us 25 cents in stamps for a pair.

Catalogue guns, revolvers, violins, organs, Magic Tricks, free. **BATES & CO., 74 PEARL STREET, BOSTON, MASS**

OLD COINS WANTED. Look Sharp for Old Coins. You might find Coins. You might find Coins. Worth Thousands. Others have. If you handle Coins. Send 2 stamps for finely illustrated Circular. Numismatic Bank, Boston, Mass.

DRUNKENNESS FREE RECIPE FOR THE SURE AND SECRET CURE OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO CURSE. Tasteless, Harmless and Certain. Prescription sent FREE to wives or friends of inebriates, or Tobacco users. A marvelous success in even advanced cases. Inclose stamp. Can be given secretly in coffee, etc. Dr. HIRAM COOK, 12 Park Row, New York.

\$4,000 CASH To readers of this rebus telling us what useful instrument this picture represents. To the first person answering, \$500; to the second, \$300; to the third, \$200; to the next fifty, \$20 each; to the last person answering, \$500; to the next to the last, \$300; to the third from the last, \$200; and to the fifty preceding, \$20 each; or to EVERY person answering, we will give a house lot FREE. With answer send 25c in silver or 30 cents in postage stamps for a bottle of **ANTI-HEADACHE TABLETS**, which positively cure headache in TEN minutes. These prizes are absolutely FREE to introduce the tablets. Agents wanted on salary. Address LAMONT MED. CO., 28 Murray St., New York.

Take COMFORT in

"A HAMMOCK"

19,000 PERFECT, STRONG, MEXICAN HAND-TIED HAMMOCKS, SAME AS GIVEN AWAY!

That all may take COMFORT during the hot weather.

YOU can defy the Mid-summer heat and disorders by seeking some shady nook, and read and repose in one of these health-giving popular articles. They are over 10 feet long, and each one is tested to 300 LBS. DEAD WEIGHT.

Never before could such a BARGAIN be offered in the Hammock line. The regular price has always been from \$2.00 to \$5.00 for a good serviceable Hammock. We got them direct from an inland manufacturer, and secured a great lot to increase our subscription list as we knew by giving them away with our magazine COMFORT it was the best way to get people to take COMFORT.

These Hammocks will LAST FOR YEARS; they are colored, and have very strong white metal rings on the ends and large strong cords on the whole length of the sides, so there can be no giving away when you get nicely encoached on Sunday afternoon. The average person weighs about one hundred to 150 lbs.; these Hammocks will hold 300 lbs.

Outdoor life is very beneficial to our health. Many people can sleep in a Hammock and SAVE BEDS. A picnic is incomplete without one or two. The price has always been so high that many people could not afford what seemed a luxury. You will find it a necessity to have one around, and won't part with it for ANY MONEY. We want agents to handle them; they can MAKE MONEY. So we make this big offer. We will send our monthly one year and the complete Hammock, paying all express and mailing charges, if you enclose only \$1.00 for the outfit. This chance to secure one so cheap will only be open for a short time, and we advise all to accept at once. They are suitable for men, women and children, and the like of this was never known. We make this offer to introduce for next season. Order yours AT ONCE! NOW! enclose only \$1.00 for all.

BETTER STILL.—If you will send us a Club of 6 Subscribers, at 25c. each, we will send the Hammock free as a premium.

MORSE & CO., Box 998, Augusta, Maine.

AGENTS WANTED \$50 TO \$150 MAKE FROM A WEEK working for WORLD'S COMBINATION EXPOSITION ILLUSTRATED; authentic organ of the World's Fair. Most beautiful, interesting and popular publication issued. Sells at sight. Send 15c in stamps for full particulars and sample copy containing COLORED LITHOGRAPHIC VIEWS OF EXPOSITION BUILDINGS. J. B. CAMPBELL, Pres., 218 LaSalle St., CHICAGO III.

THE WORLD'S FAIR PUZZLE WHISTLE. You ought to hear it fill the air with its ear-splitting, uproarious racket. It deafens and stuns with its deep, full, powerful notes. Will thrill, roll, or make a single ear-piercing note which can be heard for miles. Blow it and hand it to your friend, and he cannot get a sound out of it to save his life. Lots of fun in it. Useful to stop a stage, call a dog, make signals at night, call help from a distance, in field or workshop. Can be carried in the vest pocket. The box of all whistles. Elegantly finished, heavily nickel plated. So attractive a little novelty that every one who sees it wants it. You should have it. Price 12 cents. Catalogue of guns, revolvers, violins, organs, Magic Tricks, free. **BOSTON NOVELTY CO., Box 1540, BOSTON, MASS.**

WE PAY EXPRESS CHARGES. IT'S FREE! to examine

Cut this ad. out and send to us and we will send you this beautiful Solid Gold plated watch, by express and if you do not find it equal to any watch retailed at \$28.00 and worth 4 times the price we ask you need not pay one cent, otherwise pay the expressage \$6.00 and the watch is yours. The movement is a full jeweled Elgin style lever, expansion balance, quick train (18000 beats) with oil tempered Pinion and Hair Spring. It is a durable and accurate time keeper. The case is made of composition metal over which is placed 3 plates solid 14k Gold. This watch is fully warranted 15 years. In carrying this watch you have the credit of owning a solid gold watch and for use is just as desirable. State which you want Ladies or Gents size also your post and express office. If you send full amount (\$6.00) with order we will send by reg. mail and include a gold-plated chain which would cost you nearly the price of watch. **KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St., N. Y.**

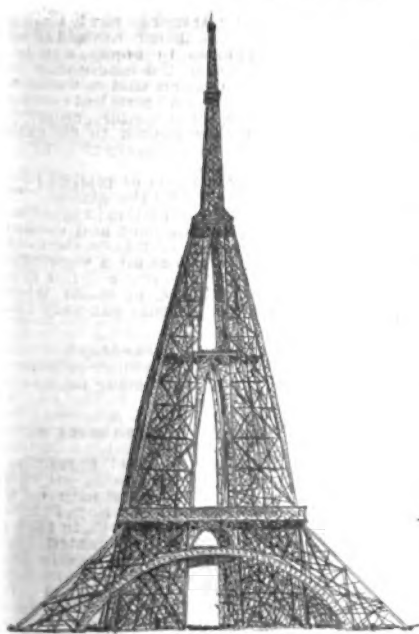


SPRAY PUMP FREE If you become agent. We send complete pump and 3 attachments. You must send 10 cts. to help pay this ad. Circulars free. A. B. SPEIRS, B 80, North Windham, Maine.

We will positively send you Only \$1

Solid Gold Finished

A genuine Gold Finished Watch which will Run and keep good time for \$1.00, to introduce at once into every town our new Special brand of Cigars. For \$1.00 we will send any person (either sex) one of our beautiful Watches who will send us during the next 60 days an order for SAMPLE BOX, containing 100 of our fine CIGARS. We are anxious to introduce these Cigars by samples through Agents, and know of no better way than to send Sample Boxes for 60 days for \$1.00. Of course we cannot do it long, but for 60 days we surely will. For 30c. extra we will send an Elegant Gold Finished Chain to match Watch. When you want Watches and Cigars sent by mail always send 20 cents extra for each, otherwise they go by Express receiver to pay charge. If after you receive samples you are willing we would like you to make sales, and if you do well would like to put you on a salary, and start you on the road with a team. Address **BROCK WARNER, 62 1/2 Fulton St., N. Y.**



THE GREAT EXPOSITION.

Probably the world has never seen in so short a time a metamorphosis so great as that which has befallen that once barren tract of land half oak-scrub, and half marsh, once far outside of Chicago, but now more than ten miles within the limits of the city, which is the site of the coming World's Columbian Fair.

Twenty-five years ago it was a long strip of sand ridge, covered with many scrubby oaks, and a few diminutive birches, which a hundred thousand years or more ago was the shore of Lake Michigan, the scrub flanked on either side by a wide marsh, the eastern one extending to the present shore of Lake Michigan.

When the great Park System of the City was located, this site was selected as a part of it and named Jackson Park. But being the one most remote from the City's centre, it was the last to be improved. So until within the last five years it remained a waste spot, tramped over only by vagrant cattle, the zealous naturalist, or the assiduous fisherman.

The changes wrought by the City Park Commissioners were marvelous, and only six months ago it was a beautiful spot having all the characteristics and endowments of a large City Park. The shore of the lake had been paved a hundred feet in width with Belgian blocks and extending into the lake far enough to prevent any encroachments from the waves. A large and ornamental Casino had been erected near the shore. Piers had been constructed where half-hourly steamers landed crowds of excursionists from the City. Wide walks of asphalt or of macadam led in every direction. On the artificial lakes, filled with water-birds and fishes, were many pleasure boats, while here and there tennis grounds and ball fields added their charm to the festive scene.



Again the Magician's wand has waved, and presto! all this scene of beauty has disappeared to give place to another, perhaps not more beautiful, but one of far more grandeur. With no cessation during the winter, more than four thousand workmen have been busily at work, night and day transmuting the quiet pastoral scene into a new Venice—a Venice which shall outvie in glory and grandeur the older Venice of the blue Adriatic.

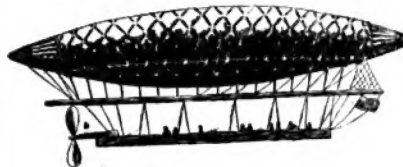
The various buildings which are to stand upon the banks of the great Lagoon have all been described in previous issues of COMFORT, so it is unnecessary to refer to them individually at this time.

Such progress has been made however, that it is the intention of the Directors of the Exposition to dedicate all the buildings next October! Within the last six weeks the grounds have been so changed that no one can doubt the extremely rapid progress of the work. In six weeks the entire group of structures has assumed definite shape; large additions have been made to those buildings that were then under way; while those that were only being



founded at that time have come up like mushrooms in the night.

This new Venice, which they name the "Grand Court," is the main outlet of the Exposition. Its three sides are flanked by five of the most important buildings. The fourth side, that which has been built across the end of the Lagoon to separate it from Lake Michigan, will



not be the least interesting feature by any means. In the original design it was in the shape of a semi-circular bar, on which were raised thirteen columns surmounted with statues to represent the thirteen original States of the Union. This plan has now been changed, and there will be forty-four columns, with their forty-four sculptures, each representing one of the States. Behind the columns are to be forty-four pedestals and statues, with also a colossal figure of Columbia, the whole making a truly majestic entrance to the Grand Court.

On the Grand Canal as well as elsewhere, the scene will be truly cosmopolitan, for the Venetian Gondola, the Canadian Batteau, and the Indian Canoe will vie with each other in making the picture attractive. From the great Tower, three hundred feet or so higher than Eiffel's famous one, we may distinctly observe the new towering buildings of the city, and perhaps by the time the Exhibition opens there may be a line of air-ships making regular trips, at the same rate of fare as the cable-cars, between the great Tower and the Cupola of the building which we show here. Who knows?

DEVELS Bond. Boys, Girls you all want it. BIG CRAZE. 10 cents 3 for 25. Gray Low, Augusta, Maine.

Music Send 10c for sample of Vocal or Inst. Music. Reg. price 30c to \$1.00; or 50c for 100 p. Song Folio book—\$15.00 worth late music. Windsor Music Co., 215 Wabash-av. Chicago.

PRINTING OUTFIT 1 Alphabet Rubber Type. Pen, Holder, Tweezers, etc. 10c. Self-Inking. PEN & PENCIL STAMP, any name in rubber, 15c. Club of 10 for \$1.00. FRANKLIN PRG. CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN.

TO-BAK-URE A Guaranteed Cure for the Tobacco Habit. Ask your druggist. Prepared by H. W. Comstock, La Fayette, Ind. \$1.00 box.

SALESMEN WE OFFER BIG MONEY EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY. OUR NEW PATENT DOOR CHECK SELLS AT EIGHT. ONE AGENT MADE \$50 FIRST DAY, SO CAN YOU. SAMPLE, 50c. UNIT DOOR CHECK CO., CHICAGO, ILL. MENTION THIS PAPER.

SEND A SLIP OF PAPER the size of your paper and 10 cents in silver for postage, etc., and I will mail you one of these Gold Foiled Finger Rings and my large Illustrated Catalogue of Rings, Emblems and Novelties. For Agents to sell. \$1.00 an hour can easily be made selling these goods. Address at once to: CHAS. E. HARRIS, Lockport, N. Y.

DID YOU EVER

Across the Bridge
Afterwards
Age
Angel's Promise
Annie Laurie
Auld Lang Syne
Ave Maria
Baby's first asleep
Battle Prayer
Beautiful Bessie
Beauty's Eyes
Bells of Seville
Bid me Good-bye
Bird Raptures
Blue-eyed Milly
Blue Eyes
Blue Violets
Bonnie Blue Flag
Bonnie Doon
Bother the Men
Braw new Shoon
Bridge, The
Cavalier Song
Chained at Last
Comrades
Concealment
Cork Leg, The
Could I
Cow Bells
Cradle Song
Creole Love Song
Darkie's Dream
Delayed Ship
Dublin Bay
Dying at the Door
Emmanuel
Everyday
Every-day Life

Farewell
Fiddle and I
If thou hast a Key
I'll have your Hat
Irene Lorraine
Irish Wedding
Job Lot
John Nott
Kathleen Aroon
Love's Proving
Mary and John
Mary of Argyle
Meeting, The
Mistrel's Song
Morning bright
Mother dear
Mother's Dream
Mother's Song
Musical Miseries
My pretty Pearl
Almighty Dollar, The
Alone in the old Cabin Home
Alone, yet not alone
American Hymn
America's ahead of them all
Am I still beloved?
Angels ever bright and fair

Beautiful Moonlight
Blue Bells of Scotland
Bring back my Love
Bye-bye, Baby Darling
Champagne Charlie
Come back to Mother
Comin' thro' the Rye
Cricket on the Heath
Cruisken Lawn, The
Childhood's happy Hours
Dear Heart, we're growing old
Don't let the Veterans suffer
Dreiling with the Angels
Ever sweet thy Memory
Far from the Heartstone
Eureka! I've found her at last

Fisher's Child, The
Firelight
First Love
Fritz's Lullaby
Gift, The
Gipsy's Warning
Give a Kiss to me
Gleaners, The
Go, lovely Rose
Guardian Angel
Heart of a Sailor
Hiding from Papa
Happy New Year
Hail Columbia
Hymn of Eve
In old Madrid
I'm all right

Marguerite
Mazurka Hymn
National Debt
None but I can say
Norma's Song
Not for Joseph
Now was I wrong?
O, Baby name
Oh! This Love!
Old Folks at Home
Danish National Hymn
Don't leave me, Johannes
Douglas, tender and true
Down by the surging Sea
Father is drinking again
Flirting in the Starlight
For a Dream's Sake
God save the Queen
Home, Dearie, Home

Fellow who played the Drum
Grandmother's old Easy chair
God bless my kind old Mother
I'm a hustler just the same
I'm a kind, nervous Man
I whistle and wait for Katie
I'll see him just once more
Hush, Baby, my Doll
I'm weary
In sweet September
Italian National Hymn
I've been there myself
I would not forget thee
Jerusalem the Golden
Johnny Doolan's Cat
Jolly young Waterman

UNCLE SAM will bring you a cake of NEW PROCESS DOG BISCUIT for 5 cts.; a cake of BIRD MANNA for 15c. This is a most wonderful SONG RESTORER for Canaries and all other Cage Birds. U. S. will bring you FREE either a Bird Book, Dog Book, Horse and Cattle Book, paper of Fronefield's Cattle Powder, box of Corn Salve or Dye Color. If you name the paper in which you saw this. Address THE BIRD FOOD COMPANY, 400 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Write to us If out of employment or seeking a change. We have something to offer you. We will pay you VERY RAPIDLY WHEN YOU WORK. NO Snap. Live agents will write quick for particulars. Enclose 25 cts. for sample and circulars which we will deduct from first \$5.00 order. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write quick. Address: C. MONROE MFG. CO., Box 95, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

GIRLS! We will give to girls under 16 years of age, who will do a few hours work for us, showing our new goods to their friends. **A SOLID GOLD RING**, set with a GENUINE DIAMOND. Every girl who does this work for us gets one of these expensive rings. Send size of finger and Ten Cents for postage. Address, L. M. ASSOCIATION, 269 Dearborn St., Chicago.

A RELIABLE WOMAN Wanted in every County to establish a Corset Parlor for the sale of Dr. Nichols' Celebrated Spiral Spring Corsets and Clasps. Wages \$40 to \$75 per month and expenses. We furnish complete stock on consignment; settlements monthly; \$3 Sample Corset free. Send 18 cents postage for sample and terms. Nichols Mfg. Co., 378 Canal St., New York.

MEN WANTED To test a Positive Cure for Nervousness and all Similar Diseases. So great is our faith in our Specific, we will send One Full Month's Medicine and much Valuable Information FREE. G. M. CO., 835 Broadway, New York City.

\$25 HOW MANY DOTS IN THE CIRC? Mail your guess with 10c. You will receive FREE for 3 months the best Young People's Paper in America. The first correct guess will a receive \$25 in cash; the 2d, \$10; the 3d, \$10; the 4th, \$5; the 5th, \$5; each of the prize offers in our paper each month. High class paper for boys and girls, alone worth many times the price. Address YOUNG AMERICA, 1974 Pa. Ave. Washington, D. C.

DO YOU WANT A WATCH? FREE! We will give a fine Swiss watch FREE to one person in each locality who will answer the question of our popular magazine. The watch we offer is a good timekeeper, not a toy or a trinket, and a good reliable watch. The People's Journal is an old-established family magazine. We want 100,000 watches at once and will give 10,000 watches, if necessary, to get them. If answering this ad. promptly you can get one of these watches absolutely FREE. If you want a watch send us the names of ten readers of different families and the silver or gold watch for each of the ten readers. We will send each watch as we agree by return mail. Send 10c. PEOPLE'S JOURNAL, WASHINGTON, D. C.

HEAR PATTI SING

that endure are as varied as the differing tastes of humanity. To meet the demand for a volume which caters to all tastes, the publisher of "HARMONIZED MELODIES" undertook to give the public a collection that has never been equalled. He secured the services of Mr. CHARLES D. BLAKE, who has so harmonized and arranged the selections that not only can they be sung with or without accompaniment, but were the words of every song removed, we would have a collection of instrumental arrangements left without changing a note. What can be more desirable than a publication which takes you from the sweet lays of the troubadours of old, down to our day and

"HARMONIZED MELODIES" is a collection of over 400 of the latest of the new, and best of the old songs and ballads. It contains hundreds of pieces never before published in any but high-priced sheet music, at from 35 to 60 cents each; has 256 pages, each 10x12 inches; is printed from new plates on fine book paper, well bound in colored covers. No other music books in the world are to be compared with it as regards quantity, quality, arrangement, and price. It surpasses them all. Look at the surrounding list of contents and bear in mind they contain **ALL THE PARTS COMPLETE.**

<p>Out on the Deep Repose and Peace Serenade Sevilane Sweet Kitty May Tail of an Ass That is Love Three to one Tilda Toots To a Flower Token Tom Bowling Toud Moke True Courage Up the Hills Voices of the Past Waiting for Thee Wake up, Gabriel What I did Whip-poor-will Whispering Hope</p>	<p>Just one more Kiss Last Rose of Summer Last Note, no weep Light in the Window Little Annie Rooney Little Daisy Blossom Little Don of Spain Lord, remember David Lord's my Shepherd Love's Quarrel, The Memories of my Mother Nearer my God to Thee Nell Flaugherly's Drake Oh! you little Darling Only a few faded Roses Old Rosie, the Beau Our Baby beats 'em all Over the Harbor Bar Peal of the Village Bell Pinafore on the Brain Polly-Wolly-Do-doodle Return, O God of Hosts Rat Catcher's Daughter Spring, gentle Spring Star of Bethlehem, The Star-spangled banner There's a little vacant Chair Tripping thro' the Meadows Tune the old Cow died of Uncle Dan's lined Mother on the Was there any Harm in that What hast thou done for me What the little Lips are saying</p>	<p>Who is Sylvia? Wild Rosebud Sweet Long Ago, The Thou art lost to me Thou art my Queen Tom Thumb's Alphabet There's sure to be a Way Wacht am Rhein, Die We'll triumph by and by Winds are breathing When Violets bloom again When I'm o'er the rolling Sea When you and I were Boys Where were you when Mother be Why does not James propose Why don't the Men propose Woodman, spare that Tree</p>
---	---	--

ALL THE PARTS

Dear Mother was for me
Did you ever call me Darling?
Don't drink, my Boy, to-night
In the Time of Apple-Blossom
I stand upon the beach alone
Little shady Nook in the Dell
Little Woman and the Pedler
Lullaby, do you think of me now?
Maiden sang to the rising Moon
Massa's sleeping in the Churchyard
Alas! those Chimes so sweetly stealing
Are you not a Coquette, Lulu Darling?
But thou didst not leave his Soul in Hell
From our Home the loved ones are going
Hark! don't you hear dem Bells a-ringing?

He was despised and rejected of Men
Holly, Lord God Almighty
Hoppy, Kiddy, high and low
Hurdy Ann, how is your Mother
I dreamt I dwelt in marble Halls
In love with the Man in the Moon
I've something sweet to tell you
My Heart is full of Love for Thee
My Lad, my Son, my only One
My Son, my Son, my only One
Oh! Carry me back to old Virginia
Oh! Sing again that gentle Strain
Old fashioned Well by the Wayside
Old Man ain't himself no more
Once I loved a Maiden fair
Only a Blossom from her Grave
Our first and last good-night
Hark! The Lark at Heaven's Gate sings
His Salvation is nigh them that fear Him
How oft beneath the farthest Skies
I'll remember you, Love, in my Prayers
On the Banks of the beautiful River

ONLY 60 CENTS

Waft her, Angels through the Skies
We have gathered Long Ago, To-day
When Mamma was a little Girl
When the Roses are blooming again
When we met to part no more
Will you hearken for my Footstep
Within a Mile of Eden's Town
You should have seen her Boots
When you and I were young Maggie
Whisper of Love
They discharged him because he was old
Think of me, Love, in your Dreams
Tis Years since I parted, dear Mother be
What though I trace each Herb and Flower
When the evening Shades are falling

Sent by mail, postage paid, to all parts of the United States, Canada, or Mexico, on receipt of 60 cents. Including 4 mos. Trial Subscription to "COMFORT." The Publishers of COMFORT being anxious to secure a large number of yearly Subscribers during the Summer months offer this Mammoth Collection Free for only six yearly Subscribers to COMFORT at 25c. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

THE HAMMOCK CHAIR.



WHAT A LOT OF COMFORT I CAN NOW TAKE.

can be put up and taken down or adjusted to any desired height, from 3 to 7 feet in a second. It is splendid to put up in the door or on the piazza for an invalid. The children are just crazy to use it for a swing. We offer this brand-new article as a PREMIUM for a club of eight yearly subscribers at 25c. each. We will sell it for 62c. if 20c. extra is forwarded for postage or express. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine

A PRIZE TO EVERY ONE!

The above Robus names a common vegetable used for food by every family every day. WHAT IS IT? To the first person who sends a correct answer before June 30th, 1892, we will give \$150 CASH. To the second, \$100. To the third, \$50. To each of the next ten, a Solid Gold Watch (not plated but SOLID GOLD), with Genuine American movement. To each of the next five, a \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next ten, a Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 14 to 18 yards. You can choose between Black, Gray, Blue, Green, Brown or Wine Color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty, we will give to each one a Handsome Genuine Solid Nickel Silver Cased Watch, stem wind and set, with genuine American movement. Besides these prizes we will give to every person who sends an answer a beautiful copy of THE LIFE OF CHRIST and send it to you all charges prepaid by us. With your answer send 30 cents postage and advertising expenses. We make this unparalleled offer to introduce this splendid work of art, and to secure canvassers for it at every Postoffice. You can make an average of \$8 to \$10 a day with it if you conclude to take the agency after receiving it. You can make money as well as any one else. Address JAMES LEE, Publisher, Owings Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

Copyrighted, 1892, by the publishers of Comfort.



It is safe to say that every man, woman, and child is interested in lifelike photographs in general and some photographs in particular; and every one will be glad to read what the artist has to say who has "taken" more blushing brides, happy grooms, bouncing babies, and prominent people in every walk of life than any man living. Where is the man or woman who has not admired the artistic dash and pose which characterize the work of the fiery little man, whose likeness we present herewith and who, topped with a red "Turkish Feh" that looks like a flowerpot, has for years held the position of the most prominent photographer. Napoleon Sarony was born in Quebec, but has been an American since he was ten years old. He is an artist by birth, and his beautiful studio at Union Square, New York, is visited by noted people from all parts of the world.

How did he gain his present distinction? Here's what he says to the *Comfort* Kadaker: "My success is due to a thorough and constant study of figures and nothing but figures. Nobody succeeds now but the man who does one thing well. All this has helped." He swept his hand around the room, piled with beautiful crayon and charcoal studies from life by his own hand. "The successful photographer must be an artist, with an artist's eye for a fine pose or a beautiful line, an artist's appreciation of the beauties of the human figure. Every photograph must be a picture in the artistic sense, and the fundamental rules of drawing must also apply."

"Thus," and he rapidly assumed an attitude, "a man can stand like this without falling down, but for a photograph, never."

"They say that figures cannot lie: neither can a photograph, yet we know how figures can be juggled with, and with my camera I can do the same. For instance, I could show you a photograph of myself in which I look at the least five feet ten, yet I am barely five feet."

"No, I do not excel because of my mechanical accessories. Others may have as good. But many are merely 'chemical photographers' and the soul of the profession is not there, the instinct is lacking which seizes the good points—and all sitters have some—and combines them into a graceful, and artistic, and a pleasing likeness."

Mr. Sarony's signature which is here reproduced shows the character of the man.

One of the most striking examples of the self-made man to be found in this country to-day is the Honorable Leland Stanford. The story of his advancement from a poor farmer's boy to the exalted position of United States Senator, and one of the richest men in the world, sounds almost like romance. He was born in 1824 at Watervliet, N. Y., the present location of the great United States gun foundry. At the age of twenty he went to Albany to study law; and in 1852, during the height of the gold fever, he went to California, where shortly afterwards he married Miss Lathrop, to whose excellent qualities much of his success is no doubt due.

He was one of the promoters of the Central Pacific Railroad, and for many years the president of this great corporation. The satisfactory manner in which he filled the office of governor of California, to which he was elected some years ago, may be judged from the fact that he is at present a United States Senator from that State. In the seventies he started, at Menlo Park, in the Santa Clara Valley, an hour's ride from San Francisco,

was enabled to make his costly and elaborate experiments in the field of instantaneous photography some years ago. For months these tests of photographing horses at full speed were successfully conducted at the Governor's country seat, at an expense, it is said, of over fifty thousand dollars.

The surpassing achievement of his life is the gift to the State of California of nearly thirty million dollars for the establishment and support of the Leland Stanford, Jr., University, at Palo Alto, as a memorial to his only child, a promising son who died in Italy a few years ago. Not only scientific and classical courses are pursued here, but telegraphy, book-keeping, typesetting, and scores of other useful pursuits, which in the founder's opinion may at some time keep a good Greek scholar from starving.

To show the grand possibilities of the glorious California climate, the Senator planted at Palo Alto specimens of every kind of tree to be found in the different parts of the world, and this grove forms one of the many interesting sights on the Pacific coast. Senator Stanford also has a beautiful city home on Knob Hill, San Francisco.

Will the coming girl chew gum? Will she be able to cook a meal such as our mothers used to prepare for us? Will she believe in dress reform? Time alone can solve these questions. But one thing is settled. The coming girl will know something about typewriting. There are to-day in the United States alone over 200,000 women who earn their daily bread by typewriting and stenography. Fifteen years ago there were not a thousand in the whole world. In 1876 the writing machine was a curiosity, to be found only here and there in large cities. To-day thousands of people are employed in their manufacture and a score of leading makers each turn out at least from ten to fifty a day; and the familiar click of the typewriter is now heard not only here, there, and yonder, in this, that, and the other corner of the business world, but everywhere—in the hotel, library, on the lightning express, at the family fireside, and on board the fleet ocean racers—its echoes greet the ear of the social visitor and wandering tourist. In other words, the pretty typewriter operator has come to stay, so has the one who is not handsome but who handsome does. In any position worth having beauty counts for little. The secret of the surest short cut to success lies in the fingers, and not in the face.



Any industrious woman with a willing heart and a level head, who has a fair common-school education can become a good typewriter. A few lessons from an experienced operator are desirable. Practice does the rest. Wages usually range from \$3 to \$10 per week according to the speed and accuracy of the operator and the nature of the work. Ladies combining a practical knowledge of stenography with typewriting are paid from \$5 to \$25 per week. Real experts occasionally get more than this latter figure, but real experts are exceedingly scarce, and so are employers who are willing to pay a man's wages to a woman even if she does more and better work.

Owing to the pleasant and profitable employment which typewriting and stenography afford, the study of these accomplishments has been taken up by thousands of women in all parts of the country, and an army of anxious candidates are constantly awaiting opportunities to fill places. As an instance of this may be mentioned that a New York house who recently advertised for a lady operator received over seven hundred applications in reply.

A good deal of nonsense has been written about the propriety of young women working in offices with men, and about the temptations associated with such positions. In answer to this it may be safely said that if it is proper for a woman to earn her living at all, it is as proper for her to earn it in a business office as by mending socks. As for temptations, the woman who is not proof against the temptations she will meet in office life is hardly proof against those she will meet at a church social. A true woman will unquestionably exercise a restraining and refining influence upon her surroundings anywhere and everywhere, and it may as well be admitted that virtue maintained in the absence of temptation is too fragile for the nineteenth century.

The price of writing machines ranges all the way from one dollar to a hundred. The new Franklin which sells at sixty dollars is preferred by many expert operators because of its simplicity of construction, and other points of excellence. A sample of its work is here given:—

"Punctuality is the hinge of business."

Miss M. T. Fordham the accomplished teacher of typewriting at the Young Women's Christian Association in New York, has kindly said the following for the benefit of the readers of *Comfort*. "One of the greatest faults is inaccuracy. Many girls don't and can't be made to understand the

serious consequences of carelessness and blunders. 'A man is known by the letters he writes' in this age where you never see face to face ninetenths of the men you do business with. A blunder in his letter may subject him to great pecuniary loss, serious complications, and lawsuits. What frame of mind is he in then, if his typewriter's conception of her duties and responsibility is limited to mechanical drumming upon the machine without any care or judgment. In business, then, be absolutely reliable and accurate, use taste in your work, and cultivate tact.

"I advise my girls to read—read all they can—read anything, even about plumbing or gas-fitting, making yourself familiar with different combinations of words. Cultivate your observation. A liberal education and broad knowledge of common things and current events will save unnecessary and perhaps mortifying blunders every day.

"Dress as nicely as you can, not conspicuously, but tastefully. Don't fail in small things. If it's your business to see to your employer's ink-stand, do it. If you pick up his pen, put it back where he can find it. There is no telling what you may be called on to do, once you get out in the world. One of my best pupils says, you don't know how I value the ability to do such a simple thing as to do up a parcel neatly and with despatch, or tie a good strong knot.

"Now there is another matter about which I feel it my duty to speak plainly; habits of personal cleanliness. I have it brought to my attention much too often, and have in mind a girl, well qualified, who has just lost her position from that cause. Two others I remember, one with beautifully formed hands, but sad to say, positively dirty, and another whose work, though well written and correctly spelled, bore here and there the faint imprint of thumb or finger.

"See that your hair is always neat and orderly. Have your dress, your desk, your work immaculate. When a girl fails in these points I greatly fear her mother is slack too. Not one in a hundred really expert girl typewriters is anything like pretty. If you have an intelligent face instead, congratulate yourself. The attitude and conduct of all around you depend greatly on your own.

"One more point is so curious that it must be mentioned. Their health. I may say invariably, improves greatly. This I attribute to regularity in living, punctual rising and eating, regular physical exercise going and coming from business in all weathers, active mental and physical employment during the day, and the consciousness of independence and self-support.

"O! There's a great deal more in typewriting than people have any idea of."

GEN. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER has long been known to the people as a soldier, lawyer, and politician, but since the publication of "Butler's Book," he may claim attention as an author. He was born in Deerfield, New Hampshire, Nov. 5, 1818. His boyhood was passed in the usual manner of the average country boy, his time being divided between learning the three R's, reading, writing, and arithmetic, at the district school and doing chores on his father's farm. He earned his own living after he was eleven years old. He was studious and self-reliant, and early showed great independence of thought and action. His father and mother were good old-fashioned New England people, from whom he inherited great physical and mental strength. He was a conspicuous figure in the Civil War, and was intrusted with important missions by President Lincoln.

He was many years a member of Congress from Massachusetts, of which State he was Governor in 1883, was candidate of people's party for president in 1884 and has been very successful as a lawyer and politician, but looks upon his military career with the greatest pride. His ancestors were soldiers and he has in his house at Lowell the swords and spurs of four generations of his family.

He has probably made more enemies and stronger friends, and been more maligned than any living American. He is reported to have said that he had been called every name under heaven but a fool. He is a man of the people, and has made his way from a poor boy to great renown. He is a large-hearted, generous man, and greatly loved in private life. He has had severe domestic afflictions, but is still in active practice of his profession.

THAT was a wise man who wrote:—
We may live without poetry, music, or art,
We may live without conscience, and live without heart,
We may live without friends, we may live without books,
But civilized man cannot live without cooks.

And she is a wise woman who looks upon cooking as an accomplishment, which every girl ought to master. Here is what Mrs. Sarah S. Rorer the talented lady who is at present delivering a course of lectures at the Food Exposition in New York City, says upon this interesting subject:—

"The failure of many American newly married women to properly manage their household affairs creates much unhappiness in homes, and is a greater cause of discord in the family than one would think. It is my opinion that it would be, on the whole, a good thing if all girls had a certain compulsory training in these matters, no matter what station in life they expect to be called afterward to fill. It is not necessary to be rich to have properly cooked food.

"I do not use either utensils or materials not found or easily obtainable, by the masses. The point in which so many women fail is in ignorance of common household management and cookery. They don't know the reason of things, the action of cause and effect. I am not at all a vegetarian, but nervous people in this country eat too much meat. Very nervous persons, or those with a tendency toward insanity, should eat very little, indeed."

Chauncey M. Depew is another prominent self-made man in the best sense of the word. A country boy, with no other advantage than the training of good parents, he has become one of the foremost men of the times. Born in Peekskill, N. Y., in 1834, he was graduated from Yale College in 1856, studied law, and became counsel for Commodore Vanderbilt's railroad system. He early entered political life, and was

Secretary of State of New York when a very young man, and candidate for Lieutenant Governor of New York on the ticket with Horace Greeley in 1872. He was nominated minister to Japan, twice declined the United States senatorship from New York, and was named by the Republicans of that State as candidate for President in 1888. He is President of the Union League Club of New York, and officer and member of a large number of clubs and societies in literary, scientific, social and business life. As president of the New York Central Railroad Company, he directs and controls the employment of thousands of men. He is known to the people as a politician and after-dinner speaker, but he is a statesman and orator. His talents are as varied as his intellect is great. In any assemblage of men he is the chief figure, and his silvery speech graces every occasion. He resides with his charming family in New York City.

Briefly and bluntly stated from a man's standpoint the "Dress Reform" favored by Mrs. Jenness-Miller consists in reducing the number of petticoats and so forth worn by women of to-day, and wearing bifurcated (divided) garments in place of the skirts and gowns which have so long been the "fashion." Viewed from the standpoint of common sense, economy, health, and physical grace, the proposed new departure merits woman's serious consideration. Perhaps few may wish to carry the reform to the extreme urged by its fashionable champions, but the masses will doubtless derive both comfort and profit by adopting that happy medium which good, hard, practical common sense suggests.

"A woman's underclothes, complete and of good material, for three dollars and a half!" Can she clothe herself for that amount of money and wear the old-fashioned garments?

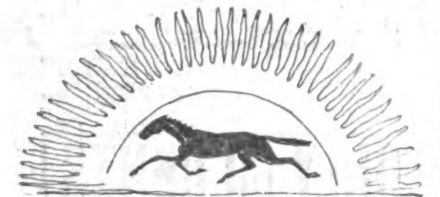
If Mrs. Miller's new departure is successful it will largely be because to adopt it will be both cheap and sensible. "Costly your habit as your purse affords," expresses it exactly. You can spend as much or as little as you please, and with no loss of grace or comfort. In the new system there are four garments; in the style of our mothers about ten. We laugh at Washington Irving's "Knickerbocker," and his Ten Broeck, the wearer of ten pairs of breeches, in the approved Dutch style of those days, but the modern woman of four petticoats is too common to excite mirth.

Thinking people must admit that the reform is growing, when Mrs. Miller's quarterly magazine becomes a monthly, and grows in circulation like a weed. As for Mrs. Miller herself, no one who beholds her at home, abroad, or on the lecture platform can doubt but that, in her own person, her idea is a grand success.



Every community has a man who is regarded by common consent as its social leader. He is floor-manager of dances, gets up theatrical performances, picnics, and other social events, and when the people wish to organize any entertainment he is the man who always leads off. Such a man to New York society is Ward McAllister. He was once a book-keeper, and is now the leader of the "Four Hundred." He is a shining example of the curious fact that society will pay anyone well who will provide for its amusement. Notwithstanding the howl of ridicule with which he has been assailed, there is something to be learned from him. He obtains a good living by the exercise of certain qualities, and he should not be condemned because he does not put those qualities to what the world would consider a more serious use. A while ago he published a book called "Society as I Have Found It," and by "society" he means that part of the people of New York City who figure in what is called fashionable life. From it one obtains a true idea of its author, a fair idea of some of the manners and customs of modern society, but no idea of the people who compose that society, some of whom are among the noblest men and women of the land.

But listen to this from his book: "At each stage door a prominent citizen stood guard; the immense supper room was filled, no one else was admitted. As fifty would go out fifty would come in. I remember, on my attempting to get in through one of these doors, stealthily, the vigilant eye of John Jacob Astor met mine. He bade me wait my turn; nothing could have been more successful or better done." Don't laugh! It's his business. Confess that he understands it. Our illustration in the *Kodak* group represents Mr. McAllister as he appeared at the famous fancy dress ball given by Mrs. Astor some time ago.



the most extensive and successful trotting horse breeding farm in the world—Palo Alto. He is one of the best judges of horses in America, and originator of the kindergarten system of training trotters, by which colts are exercised in miniature race tracks of graded sizes, according to their ages—from the baby trotter a few months old, to the yearling. Of the world-beaters he has bred and developed, over one hundred Electioneers alone have public records better than 2.30. Among the more prominent of these are Sunol, Wild Flower, Manzanita, Palo Alto, Norlaine, and Bonita. The market value of some of these is over fifty thousand dollars each. It was due to the generosity of Governor Stanford that the photographer Muybridge